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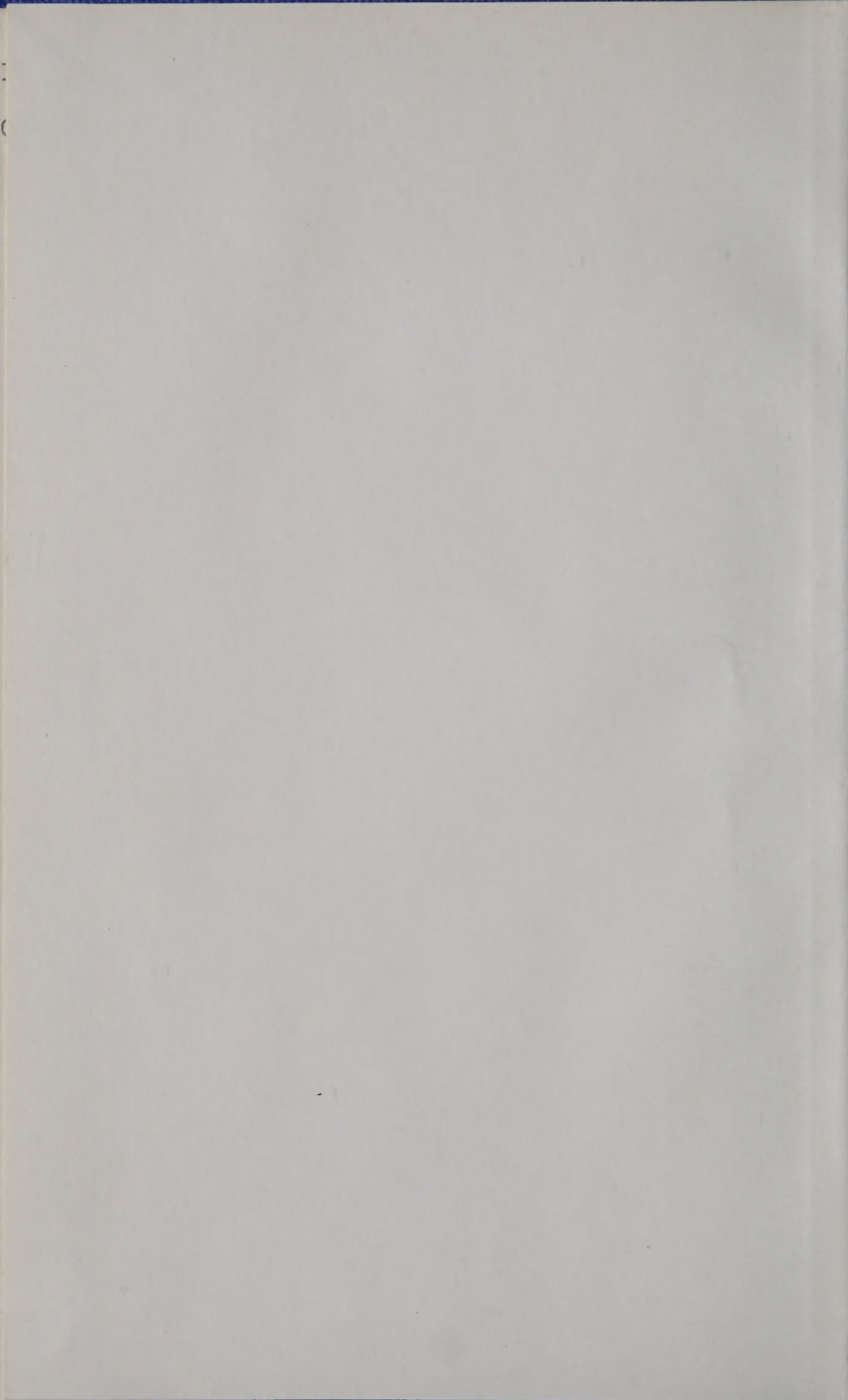
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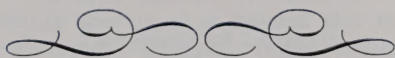
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The Hillsboro Story c

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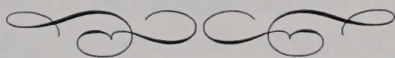
1807-1957

Compiled and written by
Mrs. Edwin B. Ayres, Jr.

under the auspices of
The Sesquicentennial Company
Hillsboro, Ohio

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Mrs Ed. B. Ayres, Jr.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide authentic information and historical highlights about Hillsboro. There are volumes of interesting statistics which would reflect more fully, the wealth and progress of Hillsboro throughout the past one-hundred fifty years, but their closing will gather us nothing in their annals more worthy of preservation than the records of the lives and achievements of the remarkable men and women who founded our city.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Mrs. Elsie Johnson Ayres (Mrs. Edwin B.) was born in Ansonia, Darke County, Ohio, Nov. 9, 1905. She graduated from Greenville Schools and later attended Otterbein College. Mrs. Ayres has been a resident of Hillsboro since 1930. All her life she has been interested in Ohio history. Since a resident of Hillsboro she has spent some time in research on Hillsboro history. The Ayres' have a large collection of historical documents, books and art objects.

The Ayres Drug Store has an impressive collection of early prescriptions, medicine, surgery and drugs. Much of this information is part of the drug store which had its beginning in 1808.

For the story of Hillsboro, Mrs. Ayres has done exhaustive research as to dates and places and names making this book one of reliable and authentic information.

HILLSBORO CITY GOVERNMENT**MAYOR**

KARL DOEBELE

Term expires December 31, 1957

Safety and Service Director

Col. Mathew L. Crabtree

President of Council

V. D. Christoffel

CouncilmenJames Carey
Ervin Kerr
F. A. Johnson, Jr.Ed. Fehring, Jr.
Donald Sams
John Tom

Allen Stanforth

Auditor

John McCreight

Treasurer

Mary Carstens

City Solicitor

James Hapner

1724074**Office**

Gertrude Hopkins

Jeanne Stanforth

Fire DepartmentFred Bennett—Chief
Ledger McConnaughey
Hope U. Miller
Francis Stephens
Robert Barger
Ralph RogersRobert McGlaughlin—Asst. Chief
David Higham
Leonard Zink
O. W. Harshbarger
Elwood Wilkin
J. W. McCreight**Police Department**William Woolard—Chief
Clarence Shoemaker—Sgt.
Robert Martin
Jack StethemElmer Kinzer—Sgt.
Williard Parr—Sgt.
Lester E. Cunningham
Dwight T. Daugherty

Hubert A. Sanders

Water and Sewer DepartmentLeo Chaney
Jack Zink
Lee Kelley
Wm. KirkJ. W. McCreight, Jr.
Frank Cooper
J. O. Bayhan
Olan Brooks**Street Dept.**George White
Ray BrooksWayne Fenner
George White, Jr.

Robert McConnaughey

HILLSBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Business Men's Association grew out of the realization, of a group of business men, that an organization was needed which could make progressive plans for the town and carry them out cooperatively. The first meeting was held in the office of Dr. J. C. Larkin. When the B.M.A. was formed, Dr. Larkin was appointed secretary and Attorney George Garrett, president. Dues were \$6.00 per year with an initiation fee of \$5.00. The first great achievement of the new civic organization was the promotion of the Hillsboro Centennial in 1907.

The Association, now known as the Chamber of Commerce, numbers among its members, practically all the business and professional leaders of the community, who are ready to promote the material, moral and intellectual interests of Hillsboro.

President—Leroy Paugh.

First Vice President—Gail Ports.

Second Vice President—Pete Brown.

Secretary—Mrs. Walter Davies.

THE CITY OF HILLSBORO

Hillsboro is located in one of the best agricultural sections of the state and is noted for its fine crops and many types of registered animals. Ideally situated as it is on 7 hills, it well deserves its name "the Rome of Ohio".

Hillsboro is the hub of Southern Ohio, surrounded by a circle of cities: Cincinnati, Hamilton, Dayton, Springfield, Columbus, Chillicothe and Portsmouth. It is also the key city to Rocky Fork Lake, a 2300 acre, artificial body of water, outlined by beautiful scenery. The rolling hills, trees and shrubs of various kinds, wild flowers, birds and small animals offers a veritable paradise to nature lovers.

Rocky Fork Lake was formed when Rocky Fork Creek was dammed at historic McCoppin's Mill. It is surrounded by 1500 acres of land, owned and controlled by the state. There are two bathing beaches, shelter and bath houses, public parks, picnic grounds and boat docks. The lake is stocked with bass, crappies, catfish, pickerel and is considered the best lake for muskie fishing in Ohio.

The Seven Caves, first called Ohio's Wonderland, is located in beautiful Rocky Fork Canyon at the eastern boundary of Highland County. They lie less than a mile from the Cincinnati-Chillicothe Pike, U. S. 50. The caverns, gorges, waterfalls, chasms, cliffs and the grotesque rock formations carved by nature, present an unusual panorama of colorful scenery.

In addition to Hillsboro, the county seat of Highland County, there are quite a few other towns of importance. Greenfield, in the northeast corner of the county, was laid out by Gen. Duncan McArthur in 1798. The Tri-county fair grounds for Highland, Ross and Fayette Counties was located there for a number of years. They have an excellent school system and many municipal advantages.

Lynchburg ranks third in size. New Vienna, Leesburg, Rainsboro, Buford, these and many of our smaller towns, have helped in the growth of our county and make a bright outlook for the future.

IN PRE-HISTORIC DAYS

Mark well the transformation scene
One hundred fifty years brought round
Where once a wilderness prevailed
Hillsboro now is found.

The hills and valleys of what is now Highland County appears, according to historians, to have been occupied in pre-historic times by a vanished race, known as the Mound Builders, whose only records in history are the earthworks and crude implements which they left behind. For here, we have not only many small earth mounds, some sepulchral, sacrificial or memorial, but we have also, a great fortification which evidences the genius of the now extinct people in their building of defensive works, Fort Hill, which is situated in the southeastern part of the county.

Going a step further we enter the realm of the mingled history and tradition of the Red Man, who, under the stern decree of the survival of the fittest or strongest, was slowly driven from our hills to make way for the great civilization which was to follow.

Proud of our achievements, but not unmindful of our humble beginnings, we will, through research and the narratives of our forefathers, try, in a short space, to give you some of the history of Hillsboro during the past one-hundred and fifty years. We will list some of the gallant deeds, the heroic acts of our hardy Highland pioneers and some of the accomplishments of their valiant living.

It is to the noble army of pioneers, in whose ranks our forefathers marched and whose battle with the wilderness they fought and fell, that we owe our fertile fields, our beautiful homes, our wealth and our culture. They were men of courage and great faith in the future. Their heroic character and achievements, dedicated as they were to human freedom, unfettered religion, good morals, a broad and universal education, public and private security, industry, thrift and plenty, was their prophetic vision as an inheritance to us of this generation.

Bravely they left their homelands and went forth, leaving friends and loved ones behind. As they established their outposts farther west, woman was, as she has always been, ever present to guard, to comfort, to counsel and to work. Our pioneer mothers played a great part in shaping our destinies. Their patience, presence of mind in trying hours, their sacrifices as they stood beside their stronger companions and fought the perils that surrounded them with steadfastness and fortitude, and wrought out their early problems of toils and self-denials.

VIRGINIA MILITARY DISTRICT

The dawn of our present day history began in 1784 when Virginia ceded to the United States the great North West Territory, which she claimed by her charter and by the conquest of Gen. George Rogers Clark. The country lying between the Miami and Scioto Rivers was reserved for the soldiers of the continental line "as a heritage", a just reward for their patriotic services in the war of Independence. Thus, a lot of our ancestors were men of old Virginia stock, men who received the grants of land that made up the Virginia Military District.

The Indians have long since gone to their happy hunting ground. The bear and the wildcat have fled, leaving behind them a rich store of folk tales, legends and actual facts. Linked with these early stories in our territory, we find the names of Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton, both celebrated Indian Scouts and fighters.

In 1778, Daniel Boone, who had been taken prisoner by the Indians, was brought to one of their villages, in what is now Highland County, and securely bound to a great tree located in the woods along the top of Rocky Fork Cliff. The tree, after he was able to make his escape, became known as the Boone Tree and stood for years as a monument to the ingenuity and integrity of one of our greatest pioneers.

In April 1792, the Indians became so troublesome, their depredations so frequent and alarming, that Simon Kenton raised a party of thirty-six Kentuckians and, persuing the marauding Indians, crossed the Ohio. They continued on to the headwaters of the Little Miami to a point south of Lynchburg, in what is now Dodson Township. There they encountered a band of savages led by the celebrated Tecumseh, a Shawonoe, who had vowed to win renown as a warrior before returning home. When Kenton realized the number of savages in the party and knowing that his men would surely be over-powered, he ordered a retreat after the battle had lasted but a few minutes. However, the Indians pursued Kenton's party for hours and the "Battle of East Fork" was one of those epic encounters, evidences of which still exist.

These forays and skirmishes continued throughout all of our immediate area until Gen. Anthony Wayne's campaign of 1794 shattered the power of the North West Indians.

A COUNTRY IN THE WILDERNESS

The new territory, so rich in archaeological, pre-historic and aboriginal history, was almost all unbroken wilderness when Henry Massie, brother of the well-known explorer, Nathaniel Massie who laid out the town of Chillicothe, and a small party came from Virginia, with their maps and prospectuses and the dream of a "Model Town". They built some huts for protection and proceeded to lay out the town of New Market on a plat of 400 acres. The town prospered and became the County seat when Highland County was erected on Feb. 18, 1805, from

territory originally included in the old counties of Ross, Adams and Clermont. The provisions of the act being that "The courts of said county shall be holden in the town of New Market until a permanent seat of justice shall be established in the county".

The territory comprehended at that time was not only Highland County as it is today, but about one-half of the present county of Fayette and about two-thirds of what is Clinton County. The counties were organized for the purpose of establishing court districts. Three Associate Judges, Richard Evans, John Davidson and Jonathan Berryman were appointed at a special meeting in May, 1805. David Hayes became Clerk, pro tem and also the first Recorder. The first courts were held in the shade of the forest and at an early session, a prisoner found guilty of theft, was placed in an unfinished well with rails over the top for security, because there was no jail.

In 1805, the State Legislature appointed Commissioners to establish a permanent seat of Justice in the county, they also appointed David Hayes as Director. By 1806 there were several settlers scattered along old Indian trails, springs, fords and former camp sites. According to the records of the same State Commissioners, three men were allowed six dollars apiece, for selecting the site of the new county seat. The present location, after a careful survey, was selected because it was thought to be the highest point in the county. Because of the altitude, the climate was very healthful and there was an abundance of clear water springs.

PIONEER VILLAGE

On August 27, 1807, David Hayes made a plat of the town and on Sept. 7, 1807 he received a deed for 200 acres of land from Benjamin Ellicott for the payment of \$100.00. The plan of the new town of Hillsborough adopted by the director, who himself was a surveyor, was worthy of the tastes and intelligence of present day planning. The two principal streets, Main and High, were laid off 99 feet wide, all others were sixty-six, alleys were sixteen one-half feet, and the in-lots were ninety-nine feet front, by one-hundred ninety-eight feet back. Almost all the in-lots were within the boundaries of North, East, South and West Streets. When you compare this area with the present corporate limits of the city, you can get a correct knowledge of our territorial growth during the past century and a half.

The sale of lots was held during the early part of October 1807, on Beech Street, East of the present site of the Armory. The men were picturesquely clad in moccasins and leggins of deerskin, their shirts were belted with girdles for their hunting knives and tomahawks. The women wore simple gowns of linen or linsey-woolsey and were devoid of any make-up or ornaments.

Gingerbread and whiskey were supplied to the crowd and by evening several lots had been sold at prices ranging from twenty to one hundred fifty dollars.

John Crampton, a tanner from New Market, some days before the sale, had found a good spring on the lot diagonally across from where the Washington School now stands, and covered it with brush to keep it from being discovered. Within ten days he had erected a crude structure over the spring and began living in the first inhabited dwelling in the new town of Hillsborough. Immediately he started to ply his trade as a tanner and very soon other businesses and homes sprang up and Hillsborough began to take shape as a village and seat of justice and trade.

Hillsboro was first incorporated under a special act of the Legislature passed Feb. 7, 1814. The governing body consisted of a president, recorder and five trustees, called the Select Council. The organization was kept up for quite a while and then allowed to go into disuse. Finally in 1842 the act was repealed. Again in 1848, an act of incorporation was passed with John Baskin, President of the Council and A. G. Matthews, Recorder.

Chaney and Harris used the cash system and sold ready-made clothing bought in eastern cities during the excitement in gold and panic. They advertised satinets, cottonades, poll de Chiners, Mozambiques, Granadines, Bereges and fancy black silk.

The Highland County Infirmary Farm on the Marshall Pike was purchased from Steward Irvine in 1844. The first buildings were erected in 1852. Contracts were let in June 1886 for extensive repairs and an addition was erected to the building.

THE FIRST ELECTION

The first election for State and county officials was held on Oct. 11, 1808. The first voting place in Hillsboro was the tavern of William Barnett on Beech Street.

Highland County, isolated as it was with newspapers received weeks after they were published, failed to vote in the first presidential election held after the county was organized. At the election held Nov., 1809, James Madison became the President succeeding Thomas Jefferson, whose term expired in March, 1810.

At a meeting of delegates, which convened at Hillsborough on the 10th day of July 1828, from the counties of Adams, Clinton, Brown and Highland, comprising the fifth congressional district, Richard Collins,

Esq. was nominated to represent the district at the next election. On Sept. 28, 1828 the following Proclamation was issued:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, by a law of the State of Ohio, passed the 16th day of February, 1820, the Governor of this State is required to give sixty days previous notice by Proclamation, of the time by law provided for holding the election of Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States; and the number of Electors of President and Vice-President to be chosen:

NOW THEREFORE, I ALLEN TRIMBLE, *Governor of the State of Ohio*, in pursuance of the provisions of the law aforesaid, do hereby proclaim and make known, that the last Friday in October next, being the 31st day of that month, is the day by the said law appointed, on which the qualified electors of this State shall assemble in their respective townships, at the usual places designated for holding elections, and proceed to elect SIXTEEN PERSONS, legally qualified to serve as Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, agreeably to the Constitution and Laws of the United States and of this State; which election of Electors shall commence and close at the same hours, and be conducted in the same manner; and of which the sheriffs of the respective counties shall give the same notice, as is directed by law for electing Members of the General Assembly of this State.

Given under my hand, at Columbus, this second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight and fifty-third of the Independence of the United State of America.

By the Governor,

ALLEN TRIMBLE.

JER. M'LENE, *Secretary of State*.

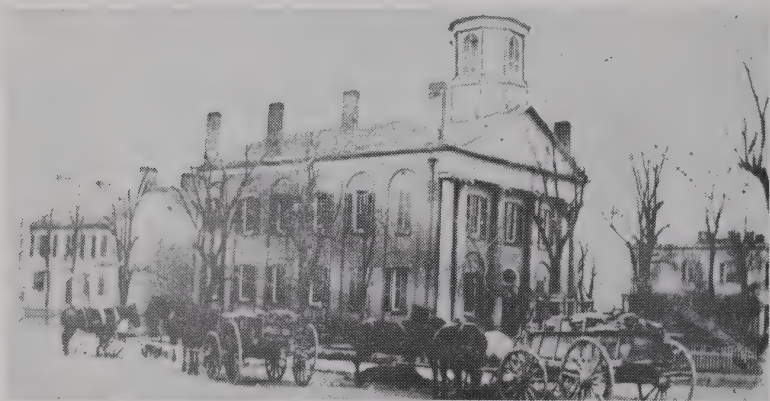
HIGHLAND COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The first courthouse in Highland County was erected in 1808 on the south east corner of the public square, 33 feet from Main Street. It was a two-story brick building, 40 feet square, with a stone foundation, 3 feet thick. There were large doors on the east and south sides. The main room was paved with brick and heated by two immense old-fashioned fireplaces. There was, also, a one-story clerk's office in the northeast front. The building was torn down to make room for the

courthouse which still stands today and is one of the oldest in continuous use in the state.

The foundation for the present courthouse was laid in 1832, by Jonothan Harvey. He died the same year and the contract was re-let to Christopher Arthur, who was able to finish it in 1835. The original plan called for a two-story brick building, 68 feet long by 45 feet wide, Grecian mode, with the front relieved by pillars. Its traditional beauty reflects the influence of Thomas Jefferson's classic revival.

The first jail was commenced in October 1807, when the cabin of John Crampton stood alone in the town. It was a hewed-log structure and was used until 1837 when it was sold to Thomas Mullenix. A brick jail, two stories high, was erected the same year on Short Street midway between Court and West Main Streets. It consisted of a prison and the sheriff's residence. In 1894 contracts were let for the present



Highland County Courthouse and jail at left in 1873.

jail on the south east corner of Court and Short Streets. The Enterprise Planing Mill furnished the woodwork, Jerry Foley, the stone work and M. Clements Co., the steel and iron work.

The first jail guards were paid fifty cents per night and twenty-five cents per day, to guard the prisoners, because the jail was insecure. A birch tree, near the jail, was used as a whipping post when Francis Knott was sentenced to be whipped eleven stripes on the naked back for larceny. On October 29, 1809, Nicholas Watters was tried and found guilty of horse stealing. He was sentenced to be whipped 50 stripes on the naked back at the new whipping post, to pay for the horse, to pay the court costs and was to be barred from holding an office of trust.

The courthouse has been used for political and other public meetings, as a place of worship before a congregation had a church, or while theirs was being remodeled, or when a new one was to be erected. The

bell, in the octagonal belfry, summoned worshipers before the churches had their own bells. It also announced to the citizens of the town that court was in session. The building has undergone repair many times and in the early 1880's it was necessary to add wings on both the north and south sides. The present jail was completed on May 29, 1895.

Shortly after the waterworks was completed in 1894, a public fountain, complete with roof over the platform and rails around the sides, was erected on the southeast corner of the courthouse yard. It was known as the "Boy with the Boot". It proved unpopular because it was oftentimes dry and was also the meeting place of the "gentlemen loafers".



Highland County courthouse as it appears today.

Near the High Street entrance to the courthouse, there is a bronze tablet containing the names of the ninety-three soldiers of the War of Independence who are buried in Highland County. The tablet, in memory of those gallant men who helped to fight the battles and lay the foundations of our government, under which we live today, was erected by the Wa-Wil-a-Way Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on June 14, 1930.

Also on the northeast corner of the Public Square stands the Soldiers monument erected in honor of the soldiers and sailors who served in the Union Army during the War of Rebellion. It was dedicated on Nov. 17, 1897. The two small cannons at the base of the monument were the gift of the Congress of the United States.

EARLY ROADS

The pioneers came from Virginia, Kentucky and other eastern points over the route marked by Daniel Boone, known as the "Old Wilderness Road". They developed their first roads by blazing or cutting down the trees and brush. They were built on the principle of natural selection. The animal paths or Indian trails became the white man's trace, leading from habitation to habitation.

The trace, from New Market to Clear Creek, which passed over the Ridge was called "The College Township Road" and was laid out by Duncan McArthur. It was opened by order of the Commissioners of Ross County in 1799, to secure a route between Chillicothe and Cincinnati. It was used extensively by families moving from the east to new homes in the wilderness. Cincinnati merchants, going over the mountains with their pack horses, were yearly travelers and taverns and inns were built all along the route.

The first road was surveyed by Allen Trimble from a point near where Hillsboro was laid out, to the mouth of Rocky Fork. When it was opened the settlers could communicate with Chillicothe because it intersected the New Market-Chillicothe Pike.

The Anderson State Road, which passed from Chillicothe to Cincinnati through the county, was opened under the superintendency of Col. Richard C. Anderson in 1804-05. Dunn's Chapel stands today at the side of that historic old stage coach road, which was at one time the great thoroughfare from east to west.

The same year Hillsboro was laid out, a road leading north, was surveyed by James Johnson. Now the Samantha Pike, it was first called the Urbana Road. The first state road through Hillsboro was opened to wagon traffic in the fall of 1807. It was the old West Union Road and led from that town to Xenia.

The first roads were made by men who took provisions for camping, also cornmeal and salt bacon sufficient to last until the job was finished. Laborers were hired for fifty cents per day and keep.

The first organized road building system was setup by forming the county into highway districts, with a surveyor appointed or elected in each district. He was furnished with a list of persons and the amount they were to be taxed and was required by law to give seven days notice, when and where the roads were to be built or mended.

Each inhabitant was supposed to "Work out" his own taxes or to send a substitute. Ofttimes they furnished oxen or horses and the proper vehicle, and some paid cash. The surveyors were usually farmers living in the district and didn't know too much about the art of road building.

In 1836, private turnpike companies began the construction of two roads, the Milford and Chillicothe road, a link in the system connecting

Cincinnati with the East, and the Ripley Road which would allow travel in the same direction, by way of the Ohio River. Although they were toll roads, they were hard to travel because at times the mud was so deep, the stage coaches had to be exchanged for hard driving mud wagons. Travelers were hampered because so many stops had to be made to dole out money for the privilege of using the roads. Several years after they were built, both turnpikes were purchased and made free by the county.

The first roads in the county, which were constructed under the "Free Turnpike Law" of the State, were built in 1866. An assessment under the "two mile law" was levied on the property extending two miles on each side of the road and placed on the tax duplicate. Persons living along the road were expected to keep it repaired.

After the passage of the turnpike law, gravel was discovered in the county in large quantities. This led to a general movement for more and better roads. The surveyors began using the method advocated by MacAdam, a Scotchman. By his system, a solid dry bed, on natural soil was formed and kept dry by a waterproof coating of stone. When finished, the road had a hard, smooth surface and was called a macadamized road.

By 1890 there were sixty-eight roads which constituted three hundred forty-one miles of free macadamized roads in the county.

HILLSBORO'S FIRST STREETS

The streets, during the first years of Hillsboro's existence, were literally covered with fallen timbers and within the limits of the town plot there were several ponds. The largest, covering nearly an acre of ground and full of water most of the year, was on North High Street near where the Academy was erected. The story has been retold many times, that some of the male students, in order to gain favor in the eyes of a young and beautiful teacher, Miss Emilie Grand-Girard, spent a lot of time decreasing the large community of frogs in the pond, when they learned that one of her favorite delicacies was "frog legs".

When the streets were cleared of the logs, steps were taken to improve them for vehicular traffic. A base of broken rock and a top of gravel provided the first usable streets. Large boulders were hauled and dumped in the center of the street and frequently, prisoners from the county jail, used iron mallets to crack the rocks. When about six inches in size, the prisoners, sitting on low stools, used what looked like an iron doughnut wedged onto a hammer handle, to break the stones into very small pieces.

Citizens were required to work out their street tax assessment by contributing labor on the streets. At one time, Dr. W. R. Smith, prominent physician and doctor, was summoned to appear before the mayor because he had neglected to contribute his labor in the amount of \$4.00.

However, he was allowed to compromise and paid \$3.50 cash.

The dust became a problem, sometimes as much as two to four inches in depth, when the traffic increased. During the dry summer months, for several years, the streets were treated with crude oil.

On August 12, 1921, the Murdock Company of Norwood, Ohio began paving East and West Streets. The material used was a coat of Warrenite Bithulithic on a base of concrete.

Today, Hillsboro is proud of her beautiful tree lined streets, so different from the first traces through the wilderness.

PIONEER MERCHANTS

The second building in the new town was a one-story log cabin built by John D. Knox on the site of the present Parker House Hotel. It was used as a tavern and meeting place for the first courts of the new county seat. In 1832 it was called the Eagle Hotel and was known for its good food and hospitality. Later, it was enlarged into a large brick structure, and became the popular Ellicott House.

Among the first to erect a dwelling was Allen Trimble. He built his log house home, covered with lap shingles, a few rods from the corner of High and North Streets, near where the Evans Funeral Home is now located. James Hayes, at the sale of the town lots, purchased the northwest corner of High and Walnut Streets, later known as the Matill Corner, and erected the first two-story building, which was used by Tommy Tarr as a hotel. Jacob and Hannah Muntz also ran an early tavern in the building, which stood until 1954, when it was torn down to make way for the new Kaufman Store.

John Carlisle came from Chillicothe in 1808 and erected another two-story hewed-log house on the corner of South High and Main Streets and opened the first dry goods store. John Smith, of English origin, from Carlisle, Penna., put up a two story brick building on the southwest corner of Main and High Streets where the Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Office is now located. He was the first treasurer of the county and the building became a combination home and general store. The Smith Store became known all over the new territory for the fine wool, beaver and other fur hats they manufactured. The lot where Bell's Opera House is now located, was the Smith family garden. The Smith building stood until 1873 when it was destroyed by fire. The next year, a brick block building was erected and sometime later, M. Free had his men's wear shop there. His son, Sam R. Free, succeeded his father in business and even today, among the older folks, it is referred to as "Sam Free's Corner"

Joseph Wright opened a small general store opposite the public square on North High Street in 1808.

Washington Doggett was one of the first undertakers. His establishment was on the ground where the new Press Gazette office is located.

The building, on the south east corner of North High and Beech Streets, torn down to make room for the Masonic Temple, was erected in 1811 by Nathaniel Pope. The Pope Building and the Smith Store building were the first two brick houses used for business in the town.

The first tailor was Charles Lang, who came from Chillicothe and set up his shop on Beech Street, in a weather-boarded house that had only rock corners for a foundation. John Shields, a Methodist preacher from Chillicothe, had purchased the square north of the public square, between High and West Streets. In 1808 he built a two-story house on the southwest corner of Beech and High Streets and another on Beech Street between High and West. The latter was used by William Barnett as a tavern.

Mr. Shields donated a lot on Beech Street to the Methodists and in 1810 they erected a church on it, the first church of any denomination in the village of Hillsboro.

James and Cary Trimble opened an elaborate mercantile establishment on the northwest corner of High and Court Streets in 1814. They supplied the military posts of Baton Rouge and New Orleans, were contractors for the construction of the Ohio Canal and the building of the turnpikes. They also took a contract for a stage route of four horse coaches from Chillicothe to Cincinnati in 1827.

Joshua Woodrow, Sr., his two sons Joshua, Jr. and Joseph and their families arrived in Hillsboro in the fall of 1808. The sons opened a general store and hat-making shop almost immediately and in the spring of 1809 built a two-story building for their increased business. Their hats were in great demand and were sold at home and in the neighboring towns. The senior Woodrow and his family, unable to find anyplace to live, spent the first winter in Hillsboro in the unfinished room put up by Lang, the tailor. The first Woodrow home was built on the Northwest corner of High and Beech Streets. Before 1825 they erected a nice frame house adjacent to their first home.

The first stores could hardly be classified as any particular type because they were able to sell only those things that could be brought in by pack horses over the mountains. For the pack horses were the express cars or freight trucks of that day, bringing in supplies, mail and passengers. The roads were rough and little more than Indian trails, following the streams or the tops of the ridges. The mails were, of necessity, irregular and money was so scarce that letters were oftentimes sent "By courtesy of" anyone who was traveling in the direction the letter was to be sent.

PIONEER INDUSTRIES

John Baskin operated one of the first wool carding machines in the county and connected with it the manufacture of linseed oil. It was located on the lot where the popular Kramer House Hotel was later erected. The lot was across the alley, west of the Ohio Bell Telephone Company Office.

The Hillsborough Woolen Mills were established about 1835 by Thomas Patterson, north of Rocky Fork Creek on the Ripley Pike. In 1866 they moved into town in the brick building now occupied by Blackburn-Milligan. At that time it was three stories high and had a tall smokestack at the back. In 1868, the mills were purchased by Fredrick and J. S. Ellifritz who continued to run them for years under the name, Ellifritz and Son. They manufactured blankets, cassinettes, jeans, flannel yarns and other woolen materials. It was not unusual



The J. S. Ellifritz Co. textile mill from a painting.

for them to run an ad in the newspaper asking for 100,000 lbs. of wool. They had a wholesale and retail store on High Street and also did general custom work. Another woolen mill, propelled by tread-wheel horse power, was operated on the west side of West Street about 200 feet north of West Main.

A factory for carding, spinning, and weaving cotton materials was set up on the south side of Beech Street, east of High. The machinery was purchased by Allen Trimble and John Nelson in North Carolina and was brought by wagon to Hillsboro.

On High Street opposite the courthouse, Henry Davis, a graduate of Dartmouth, operated a pioneer nail factory which was known as the

Novelty Iron Works. He worked hard and secured a good trade, enough that he was able to educate four sons in Kenyon College.

The first pottery was started on the New Market Pike near Eagle Spring by Richard Iliff. As soon as the town was laid out and several houses had been erected, he moved into Hillsboro, on the ground now occupied by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Depot, on West Main Street. In 1811, John Fisher, a potter from Pennsylvania, purchased the Iliff pottery and took Amariah Gossett in as his partner. During the war of 1812, the pottery they made was used as a substitute for queensware. They made dishes, tea sets, plates etc.

There were two wagon shops on High Street where they made the woodwork for farm wagons. The iron work was done in the blacksmith shops. The first shop of this kind was on the lot where St. Mary's Episcopal Church is now located. It was worked by a German named Belzer and by the first negro to come to Hillsboro, Tom Trimble. Joseph Dryden set up another blacksmith shop on Main Street near High, in 1810.

John Crampton, mentioned before, started the first tanyard at his home near East and Beech Streets. He sold out to James Trimble in 1810. He was later killed at Brownstown, the first battle of the War of 1812. Another tanyard was sunk on South High Street where Fairley Hardware now carries on business. Isaac Rhoades also had a tannery for several years about a mile east of town. He bought it from R. D. Lilly in 1834 and made it into a prosperous business. He tanned over 1100 hides yearly. In 1860 he moved into town and kept a store and finishing shop.

Col. Wm. Keyes, the first auditor of the county, established a chair and cabinet making shop and his magistrate's office on East Main Street, on the east half of the Pure Oil lot, where Dr. J. C. Larkin has his office for so many years. Newton Doggett was another cabinet maker. He had his shop, started in 1810, in a building that stood where the first City Building was erected. He taught several workmen, including his son, Washington Doggett, the art of woodworking. Washington Doggett's son, Henry S. Doggett became well known as an editor, writer and was for many years Superintendent of the schools.

John W. Timberlake set up the first wagon and carriage manufactory on Main Street. He advertised in the Ohio News, Aug. 20, 1841: "He flatters himself that he is now able to manufacture carriages and wagons in the most handsome and elegant style". He found it hard to find hands so he advertised for them. The ad read: "One coach and one Wagon Smith wanted immediately, Also two apprentices to the Coach Smithing and one to the Coach Making business".

John Ridings operated a machine factory where he made and repaired various kinds of machines. Carding machines, pickers and spinning jennys, thrashing machines of all kinds and sizes and clover hullers.

Benjamin Southard constructed the first spring carriage made in Hillsboro in 1830. It was a double carriage with a fringed top, made

entirely by hand. As late as 1825, there were only two buggies in all of Highland County and they had been manufactured in the East.

J. S. Black operated an early carriage factory on High Street. He was also a partner of Joseph Kibler who started a queensware store on the corner of Main and Short Streets in 1834. Black purchased the business after the Civil War and sold hardware, agricultural implements and buggies. He moved the carriage factory to Walnut Street and used the Hardware Store as a showroom.

In 1874 M. F. Carroll and E. R. Wright started a buggy and carriage factory in the building just north of the present Steen's Market. On Nov. 6, 1879, Wright and Carroll dissolved partnership, A. W. Downham became associated with the company. In 1879 the business was moved to the corner of Court and Short Streets. The building now occupied by N. N. Sams and Son was erected to house their increasing business.



THE CARROLL BUGGY CO. in 1908.

They made every essential part of their buggies by hand and originated a number of improvements in the vehicles, including the Elliptic Spring. Their buggies, phaetons, spring wagons and buckboards were known for their style, comfort and durability. Early in 1900, M. F. Carroll took his sons, Charles, Joseph and William as partners and the name was changed to M. F. Carroll & Sons, Co. In 1905, a branch of the company was established in Portsmouth, Ohio.

When the automobile came along the Carroll Co. were among the first to introduce auto repairing. For years the company was known as one of the most substantial and prosperous businesses in the county.

Asher and Morrow operated a carriage and driving wagon sales-room on the corner of Main and West Streets. C. S. Bell and J. K. Mar-

lay also manufactured plows in a building on the corner of Main and West Streets. Dan Williams and Joe Bell conducted the business known as "Hillsboro Implement Company" in the first floor rooms of the Carroll Building. The upstairs rooms housed the Armory and a skating rink. Later, the upper story was torn down and the building remodeled into the Eagles Hall.

J. F. Bell operated a machine shop on the alley between Main and Beech Streets. In 1869, he sold out to J. Milton Boyd. In 1877 the steam power was converted into machinery to run a flour mill. Boyd's Flour Mill did a flourishing business for years. They advertised for 500,000 bushels of wheat and produced as much as 100 barrels of flour every twenty-four hours. They had a cooper shop next door to the mill and kept four men busy making barrels for their flour.

A. Spiegel had a brewery on North High Street where beer and ale could be obtained by the barrel, half or quarter barrel. He also operated a meat market on High Street near the Trimble corner.

E. W. Shriver's Stove Store, tin, copper, brass and sheet iron manufactory, was one door east of the Endicott or Parker House Hotel. Later, Charles Utman established the Highland Furniture Co. in the building and sold "fashionable" furniture.

SOME HIGHLAND COUNTY FIRSTS

William Wishart opened the first tavern or house of entertainment in New Market in 1798.

When New Market became a Post Town, the first postoffice in the county was opened in the corner of Wishart's Tavern. Although Wishart left New Market in 1803, he was instrumental in bringing several new settlers into the territory. He wrote glowing letters to friends and relatives describing the magnificent scenery and the possibilities of the unbroken wilderness.

Another famous tavern was opened in Greenfield, "The Travelers Rest". The first proprietor was Noble Crawford, who also became the first Postmaster of Greenfield in 1810.

Thomas Dick, who was among the first party that settled in Chilli-cothe in 1796, came to Highland County in 1802 and settled near where the town of Marshall is now located. He erected the first tavern building in Marshall and is said to have entertained Aaron Burr, who was Vice-President under Thomas Jefferson and later arrested for treason.

Oliver Ross opened another tavern a few months later. He had the honor of entertaining St. Clair, the territorial governor, and was issued

a special tavern license by him. George Barrere, who figured so prominently in the early history of the county, likewise opened a tavern in 1802.

Tavern licenses at first, were issued according to the importance of the road on which they were located. Sometimes, five, seven or nine dollars per year was charged.

Michael Stroup started making hats in New Market as early as 1800. He took George Parkinson in as a partner in 1802. Their hats were sold all over the new territory including Chillicothe and Marysville.

Adam Barnoruber opened the first trading establishment in the country, in New Market in 1805. The storeroom was twelve feet square. His merchandise consisted of some calico, handkerchiefs, a few shawls, a keg of tobacco and a keg of whiskey.

John Gossett settled on White Oak in 1799 and established one of the first successful mills. It was made from two boulders left by the glacier. Wm. Lufton erected the first saw mill on Lees Creek in 1803 and James Howard, the first corn mill about the same time and in the same neighborhood. The first distillery in the county was also on White Oak. A copper still, made in Pittsburgh, was used and the rate of exchange was a bushel of shelled corn for a gallon of whiskey.

Mrs. Jane Trimble, mother of Allen Trimble, brought the first brass clock into the territory, when she came over the mountains from Kentucky in 1805. The second clock came from Virginia with the Woodrow family. Its black walnut case was eight feet high and served for many years as the town clock.

The first well in Hillsboro was dug by James Hayes on his property, on the northwest corner of High and Walnut Streets.

The first marriage in Hillsboro, was solemnized in a log cabin occupying the present site of the Parker Hotel. The first stable, made of saplings, was put up on the back of the same lot by Rev. Edward Chaney.

The first horse race in 1807, ended in a fatal accident which caused excitement throughout the territory. David Hayes, County Clerk and

Recorder and the Director chosen to lay out the town, together with his friend, George Barrere and other business associates, were returning to New Market when they decided to race. In so doing, Hayes started to speed along the path and was struck in the eye with a twig, which broke off and penetrated his brain.

John Gossett was the first Representative of the county, in the State Legislature, serving in 1808. Oliver Ross, who helped Massie lay out the town of New Market, was commissioned the first Justice of the Peace by Arthur St. Clair, the first Territorial Governor.

Elizah Kirkpatrick was the first collector of taxes. He settled near New Market in the Irish settlement known as "Smokey Row", because of the smoke clouds curling over the sugar camps in the spring of the year. John Richards was treasurer of the county in 1807. His recorded salary for that entire year was forty-two dollars and forty cents.

Jonathan Berryman, Associate Judge of Highland County when it was formed, cultivated the first orchard on his farm near New Market. He also brought the first wagon in from Manchester in 1808. Nathaniel Pope harvested the first wheat crop on the land where Leesburg is now located. James Carlisle planted the first tobacco in Washington Twp. and later manufactured it "for eating purposes". His, "My Lady Nicotine" was sold throughout Ohio. He and his wife, Sarah Bevins, were victims of Asiatic Cholera which raged in Southern Ohio in 1833-34.

Hercules, "Heck", Murphy introduced the first pigs in Hamer Twp., near Danville. He also erected the first two-story log house for domestic use. Joel Hart shot the last bear known to have been killed in the county, in 1826, on the Isaac Robb farm two miles west of Dodsonville.

One of the most famous law suits tried in the county was the Pavey Case No. 6823 which began in 1858 and was not settled until 1898.

The first airplane visited Hillsboro on March 21, 1919.

MEDIUMS OF EXCHANGE

During the first years of Hillsboro's existence, money was almost entirely Spanish Silver Coin. When it was necessary to make change, the coins were cut in halves, quarters, etc. There were also other

mediums of exchange. Produce and farm products were traded for salt, sugar and other store merchandise. If the farmer didn't need any supplies, a paper script was issued to him to be used at a later date. Furs, grindstones, ginseng, tallow and many other items were used as barter goods.

TRIMBLE STAGE ROBBERY

The stage line purchased in 1828 by James and Cary Trimble was robbed in the dense forest, then at the end of East Main Street. James Trimble was postmaster when the stage was robbed. A letter, containing \$800.00 in half bills of the United States Bank, was found to have been opened by the robber. The numbers of the bills had been recorded and the other halves were to have been forwarded the next week. It was remembered that a very personable newcomer, by the name of Smith, was missing from his job. He was found hiding in the loft of the Methodist Church and was found guilty of the robbery.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

The hills of Highland County have also resounded to the voice of the slave hunter and the bay of his hounds. The underground railroad stations were the barns, corn shocks, cellars, fireplace chimneys or garrets of the abolitionists who lived in the county. George Harris, the original of that character in "Uncle Tom's Cabin", crossed the river near Ripley and was taken care of in a station east of town. He appeared annually for years in the tents and theater shows throughout the nation and authentically claimed to have stayed in Highland County.

THE COMING OF CHRISTIANITY

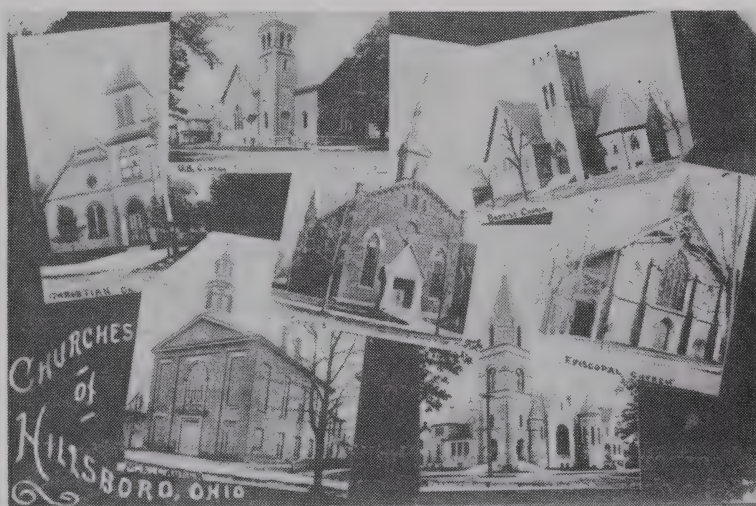
One hundred fifty years ago, the church was the comforting medium just as it has been in all ages and will be until, "Time shall be no more". The story of the coming of Christianity to Hillsboro and the forming of the first religious groups, is full of picturesque incidents. Although the first house of worship was not erected until 1810, two denominations were strong before that time, the Presbyterians and the Methodists.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The first Presbyterian Church in Highland County was formed on Rattlesnake in 1806 and became known as the Rocky Spring Church. The same year, a small group, under the leadership of Rev. Hoge of Columbus, was formed and held meetings on Clear Creek, about three miles east of what is now Hillsboro. The ruling elders of the Clear

Creek Church, David Jolly and Col. Wm. Keyes, brought with them a clear conception of their mission as religious leaders. Their influence set a pattern that is still true today. They erected a small church which they called Nazareth, on the ground of Richard Evans and used it until 1816, when they decided to move into Hillsboro. Col. Keyes was of the opinion that when a town was established, the churches should move into the town and use their influence to keep out wickedness. Rev. Nicholas Pittinger, of the Rocky Spring Church, had a group pastorate serving his home church, Nazareth and later the church at New Market.

The first services in town were held in the courthouse and the name "First Presbyterian Church" was adopted. A large brick church was built on the lot at the eastern terminus of Main Street and used until the ground where the present church stands, was purchased. This



CHURCHES OF HILLSBORO

lot, on the south east corner of Main and East Streets, became the permanent home of the Presbyterian Church in 1830. The first church erected on the lot was used until 1846, when the church which later became famous as the "Crusade Church" was built. By 1890 the membership had increased until it became necessary to make arrangements for more room. A building committee with E. L. Ferris as chairman was appointed.

The cornerstone for the present Presbyterian Church was laid Dec. 5, 1895. The beautiful church, now occupied and enjoyed by the congregation and the community, stands as a monument to Wm. J. McSurely, D. D. whose faith, energy and perseverance made its completion possible. On May 14, 1899, Rev. Wm. O. Thompson, President of Miami University, was the principal speaker at the Ceremony of Dedication.

When Dr. McSurely resigned on Nov. 26, 1899, sixty-five years of unbroken pastorate of the church was ended. In 1834 Rev. Samuel Steele began his long and successful ministry of thirty-five years. When he died on Nov. 22, 1869, Rev. McSurely, his assistant, was called to the pulpit and for thirty years the church grew and prospered under his leadership.

METHODIST CHURCH

One of the earliest Methodist ministers was Rev. J. B. Finley, son of Robert Finley of Chillicothe. He was a surveyor, Indian Scout and a very devout man. The first Methodist sermon was preached by Rev. James Quinn in the home of Mrs. Jane Trimble, mother of ex-Governor Allen Trimble. In 1810, the Methodists erected a frame church on the lot on Court Street, directly north of the present jail. The lot was the gift of John Shields, who was the contractor for the first courthouse and a Methodist preacher. This was the first church erected in Hillsboro and was used until 1815 when a larger church was built on Walnut Street, on the present site of the Methodist Parsonage.

In 1822 a one-story brick structure with a gallery on three sides was dedicated. Present at the ceremony was the noted Indian Chiefs Between-the-Logs and Monocue. The present Methodist Church was erected in 1853 by George Ambrose. Jacob Sayler, local watchmaker and jeweler for over fifty years, was Chairman of the building committee. Today, the Methodist Church, as in the beginning of the town, is one of the leading churches and has one of the largest memberships.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

The cornerstone for the Catholic Church was laid in the fall of 1852 and the church was dedicated on July 20, 1853. Archbishop John B. Purcell of Cincinnati, was present to preach the sermon, and Father Fredrick Baraga, who was destined to be a Bishop and a famed missionary to the Indians, blessed the church. The growth of the small number of Catholics among the early settlers was very slow. In 1849 only ten families were attended by Rev. Father Butler, who came from Fayetteville and held masses in the John Fallon Home, which is now the Hill City Hotel. It was through the tireless efforts of Father Daly, also of Fayetteville, that the church became a reality. He was succeeded by Father John O'Donoghue who helped in the building of the first pastoral residence and became the first resident pastor.

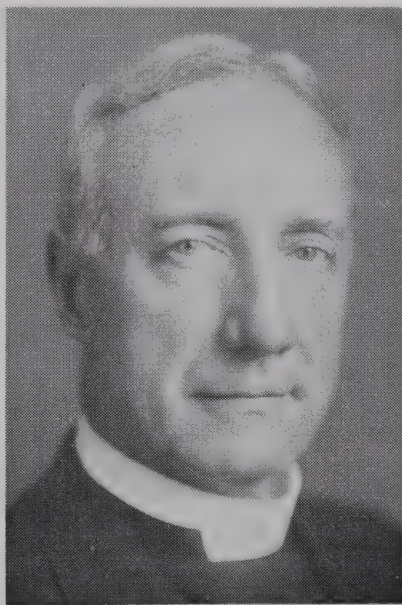
In 1902, the church was enlarged and remodeled during the stay of Rev. George Mayerhofer. The present residence was built and the church stuccoed while Father Burke was administering to the congregation.

The colorful interior of the Catholic Church, adds to its atmosphere of beauty and holiness. The altars are surmounted with statuary of the

first order. The loyal adherents are respected by all for their sobriety, honesty and good citizenship. The spire of St. Mary's Catholic Church rises majestically over Hillsboro as an inspiration to all.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Although the Episcopal Church was the first church to come to America, it was not until 1850 that steps were taken to bring the "Church of the Prayer Book" to Hillsboro. Wm. H. Bayard, son of a minister, had settled in Hillsboro some time earlier and when his first child was to be baptized, he noted the lack of church privileges and again when his second child was born. He encouraged Rev. Freeman of Chillicothe to baptize the first and Rev. Grey of Cincinnati to come for the second baptism. He told the visiting clergy of the lack of Episcopal



Rev. Ze Barney Thomas Phillips

services and Rev. Grey was invited to hold services in the courthouse as often as possible. J. Milton Boyd, Prof. Isaac Sams, Col. Wm. H. Trimble, Col. Wm. O. Collins and many more influential people became interested, and soon Rev. N. H. Scheneck was appointed to take charge of the new parish of St. Mary's. The first lot purchased was the one on which the city building stands, but it was thought to be unsuitable, so the present lot was selected.

On October 25, 1855, St. Mary's Episcopal Church was consecrated by Bishop McIlvane. The altar and interior of the church is beautiful and the memorial windows exquisite. The coloring of "The Founders

Window" is rich and tasteful and points out, to those who view it, the lofty aims, kindly deeds and heroic struggles of the noble names inscribed upon it. The Ascension Chancel Window and the Baptistry Window with Christ blessing the children are beautiful. The large window over the entrance and I.H.S. emphasizing "Jesus Savior of Mankind" was placed by St. Mary's Guild when Mrs. Mary Boyd Yoeman was president. The three windows, Faith, Hope and Love, represent the three graces of Christianity.

In 1885, a magnificent pipe organ, the gift of Mrs. Rufus King in memory of her brother, Edward Rives, M. D., was installed. It is one of the most complete and best toned organs in the whole of Southern Ohio.

The names of many prominent rectors and visiting clergymen have been associated with the growth of St. Mary's. The most renowned of the rectors was Rev. Ze Barney Phillips, who was ordained to the priesthood at St. Mary's on May 1, 1900. After several important pastorates he became Chaplain of the United States Senate and Dean of the National Cathedral in Washington, D. C. Rev. David Cady Wright, D. D., rector from 1893-96, directed the building of the Chapel. The parish house was erected in 1907 during the nineteen year rectorate of the beloved Rev. Louis E. Durr. He also gave the altar and sanctuary as a memorial to his parents.

Beautiful and reverent services have been held in time-mellowed St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Apostolic origin for over a century. May the colorful stained glass windows continue to shed their light on the many who enter in solemn quietness, to seek the peace and protection of the Cross.

BAPTIST CHURCH

The first man ordained a minister in the limits of Ohio was Rev. Daniel Clark, ordained by the Baptists on Sept. 22, 1792. Whenever a new territory was opened up, the Baptists were among the first settlers. They were in New Market as early as 1800 and by 1809 had erected a rude log building on the ground where Dunn's Chapel now stands.

In 1843 they formed an organization under the leadership of Albert Wedge and built their first church in Hillsboro, on the east side of West Street, between Main and Walnut. It was 34 x 50 feet and made from brick donated by Judge J. H. Thompson. The first Baptist Church was used for sixty years and when abandoned it became a recreation hall gymnasium. The building is now the home of Swonger Dairy.

The present Baptist Church, on the northwest corner of Walnut and West Streets, was dedicated at an Interdenominational Service Jan. 17-21, 1906. The church was enlarged and redecorated and a new organ installed in 1931. Special services of dedication were held on June 1st of the same year and tribute paid to Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Whisler who had

been faithful members for years, helping the church tremendously with their generous gifts and staunch support. The history of the Baptist Church in Hillsboro has been one of slow, steady growth, but it has developed into one of the leading churches rendering an untold service to the community.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

During the month of May and the early part of June 1888, tent meetings were held on the Webster school grounds by a number of people interested in establishing a Christian Church in Hillsboro. Rev. J. V. Updike, whose mother was a Lincoln, a near relative of the martyred president, was the evangelist and J. E. Hanols, the song leader. On June 12, 1888, a meeting was held in the Solomon Hughes home and the church organized with thirty-three charter members.

In 1892, through the unremitting efforts of their pastor, Rev. W. D. Moore, a beautiful frame church was erected on the spot where the present church is located. It had a seating capacity of about two-hundred and fifty and was comprised of an auditorium and a single classroom.

In 1914, when Rev. B. F. Smith was pastor, an invitation was issued to Evangelist H. E. Wilhite and his song leader, Prof. F. H. Shaul to come to Hillsboro and hold a revival. The church was too small for the crowds and a tabernacle with a seating capacity of three thousand, was erected on the Webster grounds. After the six weeks meeting was closed, it was decided to purchase the house and lot adjoining the church. The house was torn down, the old building moved to the back of the lot and became a part of the new church. On Sept. 12, 1915, at the dedication services, over \$10,000 was pledged, more than enough to completely pay all building debts.

The members of the Church of Christ have always been self-sacrificing and have worked with determination to achieve their goals. Today, from the beginning with only thirty-three members, their number has increased until they have the largest congregation in Hillsboro.

U. B. CHURCH

The first U. B. Church was started in the home of Rev. Wm. Ambrose in New Market in 1818. The first small frame building used as their church was erected in 1834 on the lot on the Danville Pike, now the Ambrose Cemetery.

As early as 1813 the United Brethren circuit riders were holding meetings west of Hillsboro. First in private homes, then in a small frame church and in 1861, the Ambrose Chapel, about three and one-half miles west of Hillsboro, was erected. When the congregation moved into town, the chapel building became the residence of G. E. Hottle

and still remains in his family.

The First Evangelical U. B. Church, on the northwest corner of High and South Streets, was erected in 1902 and remodeled in 1916 to accomodate the increasing Sunday School and the steady growth of the membership.

THE AFRICAN AND WESLEYAN METHODISTS, NEW HOPE BAPTISTS

The African Methodist Church was organized in 1835 by Rev. Peter James and was first located in a one-story frame church on East Walnut Street. Rev. James also started the Sunday School in 1840. They are now located on West Pleasant Street in a one-story church built in 1880. It was named Wayman Chapel after Bishop Wayman of Baltimore who assisted in the dedication of the church.

The New Hope (colored) Baptist Church is located on Beech Street and was organized in 1851 in John Young's residence. There were only four members at the beginning and church was held in an old brick building that stood near the Marietta and Cincinnati Depot, now the B & O system.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church was built in 1874 on the site of the first cemetery in Hillsboro. The first pastor was Rev. T. H. Clinton. The church is a neat one-story brick structure on the corner of East and North Streets.

THE FIRST SCHOOLS

Hillsboro is known not only for its geographical high-spots, but because, from the very beginning, great pride and gratification have been taken in its educational advantages. Many distinguished educators, both past and present, have never hesitated to improve our methods of education. Our pioneer settlers brought with them the desire and determination to provide good schools for their children.

The first school on record, was taught in a small house across from the Methodist Church on East Walnut Street. In 1815, a hewn log schoolhouse was built on East Main Street, where the Caldwell home now stands. The lot, schoolhouse and all expenses were paid by public subscription.

The Madras or Lancastrian school plan, based on the pupil-teacher system, was being used in the east and attracted the attention of many of the leading citizens of Hillsboro, who organized the "Hillsboro Lancastrian School". Trustees were chosen and authorized to hire a teacher. Captain John McMullen, from Virginia, opened a school of that type in the Main Street schoolhouse in 1818. It prospered until 1823, when other methods of teaching were adopted. Although short lived, it had

the merit of turning out good readers, writers and spellers.

There are records of other early teachers, the Eben Halls of Mass., Benjamin Brock, Judge Gregg and Robert Wray, a Quaker preacher. The early schools were operated as primary schools under the subscription method. Later, a part of the expenses were paid by funds raised by taxation. In 1832, the log schoolhouse on Main Street was torn down and replaced by a one-story brick. The number of children requiring primary instruction continued to grow until more room was urgently needed. In 1846, a two-story building, known as the Walnut Street Schoolhouse was built. For several years teachers, each with his own idea of a properly conducted classroom, came and went from the two-grade schools, "the Main Street House and the Walnut Street House".

After the organization of the schools under the Union School Law in 1853, it became necessary to expand further and it was agreed that



WASHINGTON SCHOOL

the best arrangement was to have the common schools under one roof. In 1863, the lot where the Webster School now stands, was purchased and a three-story brick building was erected. It opened in the fall of 1868 with H. S. Doggett as Superintendent. At the beginning there were 410 enrollments and 9 teachers. A regular high school course was soon adopted and revised in 1872. The following is a list of the first graduates presented with diplomas in 1873. W. A. Brouse, Edward Holmes, W. C. Nelson, Wyatt Farrar, N. Rockhold, Jr., Matilda Roads, Verda Eckley and Amelia Clay.

At the start of the fall term in 1880 there were six hundred and thirty enrollments. This included ninety colored students that were taught in their own school.

Each year the school increased and more space was needed until the high school was moved to the Institute Building on Main Street. It remained there until the Washington Building was ready for occupancy in 1896. The class of 1897 was proud indeed to be the first to graduate from the beautiful new school.

In January 1903, Hillsboro was officially recognized as a first grade High School.

Today the Hillsboro High School students have a commodious, modern brick building located on a beautiful campus on West Main Street, across from the site of the old Hillsboro College Building. The cornerstone was laid on Feb. 14, 1935 and the school was first opened for use on Jan. 13, 1936. It includes a junior High school course and accomodates high school pupils from Hillsboro and neighboring districts. It has a reputation for good scholarship, a remarkable athletic record, a good school spirit and all the necessary requirements for a



WEBSTER SCHOOL

first-class high school. Currently, Mr. Walter Shannon is the principal and at the beginning of the school year, the enrollees numbered seven-hundred thirty-one, with twenty-two regular teachers.

Soon after the erection of the high school, it became imperative to make extensive repairs on the common schoolhouses to meet the requirements of the state. They had served their purpose and usefulness, they were antiquated and overcrowded, all due to the constant climb upward of the enrollments.

In 1954, a \$675,000 bond issue was approved by the voters for two new elementary school buildings, one to be erected on the Webster school grounds and one to be erected on the Washington school grounds.

Approval was also given for an addition to the high school, to provide space for a farm shop and a music room, to accomodate both vocal and instrumental groups, in the junior and senior high school.

The Webster School was opened for use in 1955 and the Washington Building, the early part of January in 1957. At the beginning of the school year, Webster had four hundred eighty-five enrollees and sixteen teachers. Harold Henry is the Principal. At the Washington Building, the enrollment totalled four hundred sixty-five students requiring fourteen teachers. Wesley Roush is the Principal.

Hillsboro's elementary schools are well lighted, ventilated and heated. The rooms have a bright, cheerful atmosphere and space enough, for the time being, for the pupils to expand educationally. It was a fortunate day for them when the citizens decided that good schools were one of their best investments in the future.

Paul L. Upp is the present Superintendent of Hillsboro Public Schools. He has proven his qualification for the trust placed in him twenty years ago, when he assumed the position, for progress and advancement in our school system has continued since that time.

THE ACADEMY

It was not long after the first schools were established in Hillsboro, that it became evident that a more extensive system of education was needed. In 1827, a group of distinguished men formed a board to provide a male High School or Academy for the purpose of promoting the education of the youth.

A subscription was started and enough shares were sold to insure the school. The stockholders were incorporated by an act of the Legislature and organized, electing Allen Trimble, President, Richard Collins, Secretary, and Samuel E. Hibben, Treasurer. It was decided to start a school immediately and a temporary room was secured. Rev. Joseph McDowell Matthews of Kentucky was employed as Principal. In 1829, in-lot 103 on East Main Street where the Smith-Ottewill home is now located, was purchased and a two-story frame house was erected. It was used by Rev. Matthews as a high school until about 1840 when it was moved to a lot across the street. In 1842 the school was moved into a room at the corner of Beech and High Streets and remained there until permanent quarters were found.

The Academy board was able, soon after its organization, to procure through the efforts of Governor Allen Trimble, a donation of the State's interest in two tracts of land forfeited for taxes. Through the sale of these lands they purchased thirteen acres in the north part of town as a permanent home for the Academy. This land was located on the east side of North High, north of Academy Street, now called Collins Avenue. A plan, drafted by Rev. E. Grand Girard, for a commodious two-story brick edifice, was adopted by the board, and the

erection was started. Money was so scarce that many of the pledges were paid in labor and materials.

When the building was completed in September, 1845, the trustees invited Prof. Isaac Sams to take charge of the Academy. He taught the young men of Hillsboro and surrounding counties, classes in mathematics, classics and English. Immediately he urged the erection of other buildings so he could operate a boarding school for boys. Although the Academy prospered under his guidance for six years, the extra buildings were never forth coming, owing to lack of funds and in 1851 he tendered his resignation, which was regretfully accepted.

In 1853, when the schools were organized under the Union School Law, the use of the Academy building was obtained for the accommodation of the higher grades. The schools comprised three grades, primary, scndary and grammar, with the latter being taught in the Academy building. Again in 1856 Prof. Sams assumed full charge of the Academy and remained until 1858. He tried hard to retire but being a great scholar himself, he taught because of his devotion to the teaching profession. In 1858 the Academy building was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt.

HILLSBOROUGH ACADEMY

THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully informs the public that the second Session of this School commences on Monday the 5th of May, under his direction.

Terms of tuition per Session (of five months,) as follows, viz:

For instruction in the Lan-	
guages,	\$8 00
English Grammar, Geogra-	
phy, &c.	6 00
Reading, Writing and Arith-	
metic,	5 00

JOSEPH M. MATHEWS.

April 30, 1828

OAKLAND FEMALE SEMINARY

HILLSBORO COLLEGE AND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Hillsboro's first school for girl's, had its origin in 1839 when Rev. J. McDowell Matthews, mentioned before, purchased an acre of land at the intersection of the Marshall and Chillicothe roads, where formerly

stood the old Presbyterian Church. He opened, in the church building, a school for young ladies, which he called the, "Oakland Female Seminary." It was the first school in the State of Ohio in which a thorough collegiate education was given to young ladies.

It soon acquired a wide reputation and received not only local girls but many from other States. The courses were designed to prepare students for professional or literary pursuits or for entrance into the universities.

In 1847, when the Academy was flourishing, the trustees purchased the lot and building where Rev. McMatthews was conducting his female college. The action was taken because he was the first Academy Principal and was having financial difficulties. He was allowed the use of the building and the college continued under his management until the trustees of the "Hillsboro Female College," who had formed a cor-



HILLSBORO COLLEGE

poration in 1855 and built a new, modern college, between West Main and West Walnut at Oak Street, elected him President of its Literary and Collegiate Departments. He took charge of the College for "Ladies Only," in 1856. The main building was 50 x 90 feet, three stories high, with an ell 40 x 75 feet, two stories high. Their aim, as advertised in their catalogue was, "a thorough mental and moral culture at such low rates that young ladies, unable to pay large bills, could have the privileges of a finished education". Diplomas on parchment were publicly awarded to those completing either course of study. The title "Mistress of Liberal Arts" was conferred on those who completed the Classical Course, "Mistress of English Literature" on those who completed the English course, and "Mistress of Music" on those who completed the musical course.

Mr. Matthews continued as the head of the college until 1860 when he resigned to go back to Kentucky. He returned to Hillsboro in 1863 and conducted another Oakland Female Seminary, in a building east of the Institute for about nine years. In 1872, he returned to the college as its President and remained until 1877, when he retired permanently from college life.

On September 6, 1887 the Hillsboro Conservatory of Music was opened in the college building, under the directorship of J. H. McKenzie, A. M., a former Professor in the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. In 1888, the charter was changed and the name became "Hillsboro College" for both sexes, and the "Hillsboro Conservatory of Music".

On May 18, 1894 a fire originating in the loft over the chapel, destroyed all but the brick walls of the college building. Classes were suspended until a new building was completed in September 1895.

When the Oakland Female Seminary became the Hillsboro Female College in 1856, by the close association of Rev. Matthews with both institutions, it was placed partly under the control of the Cincinnati Conference of the Methodist Church. It was non-sectarian but was conducted in the interests of Christian Education.

High hopes for the re-opened Hillsboro College were never realized. Even before the fire, there were litigations and as more misunderstandings developed, between the college trustees and the Methodist Conference, competition with other colleges made it impossible to meet current expenses. The college closed its doors forever.

THE HIGHLAND INSTITUTE

When Rev. Matthews closed his Oakland Female Seminary and became President of the Hillsboro Female College, the Academy Board immediately began negotiations to open another private school in the building. Rev. E. Grand Girard, who had drafted the plans for the Academy building and Miss Emily L. Grand Girard, a former student of Rev. Matthews in the Female Seminary, established a French and English School in the Seminary Building in 1856, which they called "The Highland Institute."

The board was able to dispose of the Academy property on North High Street and used the money in 1866 to erect a large brick building, with a porch across the entire front, facing the Y or Chillicothe and Marshall roads. The building was used by the Institute until 1883.

COLLEGE ERA ENDED

On July 3, 1919, Judge N. Craig McBride ordered the Hillsboro College Corporation dissolved, and in August 1925, J. M. Hibben, the last trustee of the Old Highland Institute deeded the Institute building to the trustees of the Highland County Children's Home. (In 1953 it

was replaced by a modern fire-proof building now occupied by the Union Central Records Preservation Center.)

MEMORIALS

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The history of Hillsboro's early schools for advanced study would not be complete without a footnote about the memorials to the three outstanding teachers, who moulded the minds of Hillsboro youth for so many years.

Under the management of Prof. Isaac Sams, the Hillsboro Academy became one of the finest and most successful in the country. He was consulted on all educational matters and was by appointment, a school Examiner for many years. It was through his efforts, that a county Society for Teachers was formed and the first Teachers Institute held.



Monument to Rev. Joseph McD. Matthews, teacher.

He was President of the State Teacher's Association and was chiefly responsible for the first public Library in Hillsboro. His last appearance before the public was to speak at the inauguration of the Reading Room in July 1877. He was known not only as an educator but as a loyal churchman. He was the first Senior Warden of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and held that high office for twenty-five consecutive years. The Founders Window in the church has inscribed upon it the name of the "Venerable and beloved Isaac Sams."

A memorial window, 7 feet by 14 feet, beautifully representing the "Ascension" was placed in the Presbyterian Church, as a perpetual embodiment, to the memory of Miss Grand Girard. In the left hand corner a scroll bears the words "In Loving Remembrance of Miss Emilie L. Grand Girard", and in the opposite corner "From the Alumnae and

Pupils of Highland Institute”.

On June 18, 1886 the members of the alumnae of Hillsboro Female College, to show their love and appreciation for his over fifty years of beloved labor as their teacher, unveiled a Concord granite Monument, erected in the Hillsboro Cemtery. The monument bears the following inscription:

To the Memory
of Rev. Joseph McD. Matthews
Born in Va. 1804 Died 1879
Founder
Oakland Female Seminary and Hillsboro College
Erected by his Alumnus
In loving remembrance of their revered
TEACHER

MILITARY

The history of the men who founded our county is essentially a military history. Since then, during national emergencies, they have always been among the first to volunteer their services. They have done their part as loyal Americans, adding to the glory of their State and the greatness of Hillsboro.

The first general muster of an organized militia in the county was held in September, 1808, with George Barrere of New Market acting as Adjutant and Major Anthony Franklin, Commander. Most of the rifles shouldered that day had been used in the battles of the Revolution and in the border forays with the Indians. The companies were called out, from time to time, to exercise and to be taught the rudiments of war. When the war of 1812 broke out, one company volunteered as a body. A notice in the Hillsborough Gazette dated September 27, 1828 read:

ATTENTION !!

The Highland Calvary are ordered to parade at Hillsborough on the first Saturday in October at 10 o'clock A. M. Each member of the company is required to bring all the arms he may have in his possession.

By Order of the Captain.

One infantry company, with David Irick as captain, went to Mexico in 1846 and helped bring the "Lone Star State into the Republic". Several relatives and friends, with private conveyances, met the returning heroes at Milford. Others walked as far as Hoaglands and Pike Chapel to welcome them and join in the home-coming.

The four years of the Civil War menaced the life of our Republic and consitutes a bleak chapter in our military and civic history. The story of the rebellion, and a list of the men and officers who took an active part, is a full volume in itself and has been retold many times.

Needless to say, many Highlanders donned the uniform of the blue and regardless of religion, creed or color, fought for our national existence. When the war was over and the soldiers returned, many had been left behind, having laid down their lives on southern battlefields, in the swamps, prison houses and the prison hospitals, for the preservation of our Union.

After the Civil War the militia system of the state became dormant and the military minded men of our county began to develop the organization of companies and regiments of infantry and calvary called the Ohio National Guard.

One infantry company was organized with nearly sixty recruits and was called the "Noble Light Guards" in honor of Dr. David Noble who helped to buy their equipment. Wm. Scott contributed generously to the organization of a cavalry called, in his honor, "Scott Dragoons". It was recruited in July 1876, all the officers and many of the men had served in the army during the War of the Rebellion. About 1880, the Dragoons was changed to an infantry division and became Company A, 13th Division. The only time they were called to duty was in 1884 when a mob burned the Cincinnati courthouse and they helped suppress the riot. They covered themselves with glory and received special praise from Governor Hoadley.

In April 1898, when the Spanish Main sailed across the Atlantic to strike a blow at the cities on the eastern coast of America, Captain T. Q. Bowles of the "Dragoons" was notified to recruit his company to seventy-five and hold it in readiness for immediate call. The message came on April 26th, and, amid a grand demonstration, a flag presentation and the mingling of smiles and tears as good-byes were said, the Scott Dragons, Company F, 3rd Regiment O.N.G. were off to Springfield to be mustered into the United States Service. Their tour of duty lasted six months.

On April 15, 1899, an order was issued by the Adjutant General disbanding one-half of the National Guard and Company F of the Third Regiment was included. In the twenty-three years of its existence, its rolls had contained the names of hundreds of the best citizens of the county and had made a record of which every man who had been a member, was proud.

During World War I, Hillsboro Company D, 147th Reg., 37th Buckeye Division was commanded by E. V. Miller, Capt., Sigel Mullenix, 1st Lt. and Ancil Thomas, 2nd Lt. There were over 800 of our men in the service. Eleven were known to have been killed and fifteen died from other causes.

The full roster of our men and women in the last World War and the Korean Campaign has been too frequently published in the last few yars to make a detailed account necessary now. There are no words great enough to picture the sacrifice of those who gave up their homes, and all they held dear, to fight for their ideals and to uphold their

country's freedom. From the very first pioneer until the present day, whether the foes have been from without or within, the sons and daughters of Highland County have fought for our national rights.



HILLSBORO'S SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR CONTINGENT

THE HILLSBOROUGH GAZETTE

The first edition of a published newspaper in Hillsboro made its appearance on June 18, 1818. It was the first newspaper to be published in Southern Ohio, outside of Cincinnati and Chillicothe. It was a weekly paper called then, "The Hillsborough Gazette and Highland County Adviser" and was edited in a small building on Short Street owned by Allen Trimble. Although no local news was published, subjects of general interest were discussed, and it became a medium for announcing coming events, as well as advertising the various products manufactured, and for sale in the new town.

The first newspaper was printed on a Ramage press, similar to the one used by Benjamin Franklin. It was 10 x 18 inches in size, printed on very coarse paper, with large primer type. The first publisher, Moses Carruthers of Martinsburg, Va., was a man of considerable ability and under his guidance for ten years, the paper's progress gave the town a reputation of intelligence and clear thinking that has never been lost. Since then, it has had many editors and managers, men of intellect and influence, among them, Wm. H. Allen, Col. Wm. Keyes, Dr. Jacob Kirby and his brother Moses Kirby and Hiram Campbell.

Jonas R. Emrie, was the editor and publisher beginning in the year 1837, when Hillsboro was making rapid strides in her school system, by the coming of the railroads into the territory and by taking an active part in politics. Through his effective work and forceful writing, the

Gazette gained prestige and was ranked among the best county newspapers in the state.

In 1958, the Press Gazette will be one hundred forty years old. Very few newspapers have such a long and uninterrupted career. There have been many changes in the type of equipment used and in the quarters where it has been housed. It has been, through, all the years, the official organ of the Democratic Party and has earnestly and sincerely advocated all the measures and proposals for the advancement of Hillsboro and Highland County.

The newspaper office and printing shop, just recently moved into a new building on South High Street. Their equipment includes the latest in modern machinery and materials. From its humble beginning of less than five hundred subscribers in 1818 it now has an extraordinarily large circulation throughout the state. Published semi-weekly, the Press Gazette, our pioneer newspaper, has been known for its editorial ability and has been one of the great influences in shaping the destinies, growth and prosperity of Southern Ohio.

The Gazette was the only newspaper in Hillsboro for nearly twenty years. On April 21, 1837 James Brown commenced publication of the "Ohio News", later called the "Highland News", and was its editor and publisher for fifteen years. In 1854, when the Republican Party was organized, the News supported its platform and candidates and has, ever since, remained the supporter of the party.

In 1884 Col. Gorge W. Barrere, of the pioneer family of Barrere's, purchased the Highland News and in 1885 the Hillsboro Herald. The two papers were consolidated and the name News Herald adopted. It has continued to publish weekly, general and local news, literature and many other interesting features. The News Herald was for many years chosen as Ohio's top ranking weekly newspaper.

THE YEAR 1840

The year 1840 was an exciting one throughout all of Ohio. The slogan "Tippecanoe and Tyler Too" was heard in Hillsboro when the Whig Candidate for President, Gen. Wm. H. Harrison, made a speech in a grove at the end of West Beech Street. He came from Wilmington, by private conveyance, and was met north of town by a group of citizens and several small boys carrying flags. They acted as his escort into town. After the celebration, the campaigners were the guests of Governor and Mrs. Allen Trimble at "Forest Lawn". A barbecue was held in the evening and as many as forty remained over night.

Thousands flocked into Hillsboro to hear Harrison and to participate in the parade. Log cabins on wheels were hauled by oxen, their horns decorated with red, white and blue ribbons and garlands of buck-eyes. The young Whig Club helped with the arrangements. The first brass band organized in Hillsboro, furnished the music. The band,

travelling in a bright yellow wagon, drawn by four horses, became a familiar sight at all the political meetings and other state celebrations.

Thomas Corwin, who had given his maiden speech at New Petersburg, in Highland County, and later became a distinguished orator, was elected Governor of the State in 1840. He visited here many times during that important year.

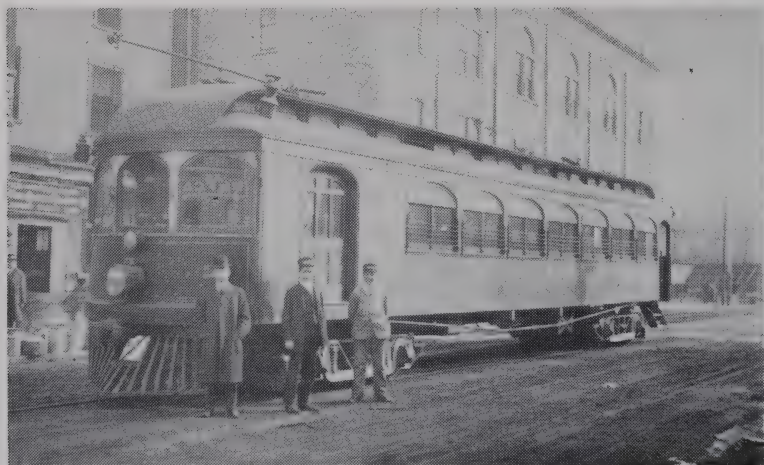
AND 1841

The taxable property in Highland County in 1841 consisted of 344,677 acres valued at \$1,099,199.00. The value of the town lots was \$132,554.00. There were 6,678 head of horses, 6,994 head of cattle and 163 pleasure carriages. The total taxes for the year was \$21,751.40 and 1 mill.

In Liberty Township, in 1841, the amount of tax charged on each dollar of valuation of taxable property was, State and Canal 5 mills, County and Schools 6½ mills, Township and Poor 2 mills making a total of 13½ mills.

At the time Hillsboro was organized the tax duplicates show about 200 inhabitants. By 1841 there were 868 inhabitants and 4,535 by 1900.

In 1878 there were 10,400 horses, 20,221 cattle, 732 mules and nearly 60,000 hogs in the county. That year 132,518 bushels of apples were produced and 15,000 barrels of lime. 122,871 acres were under cultivation and there were 65,439 acres of woodland.

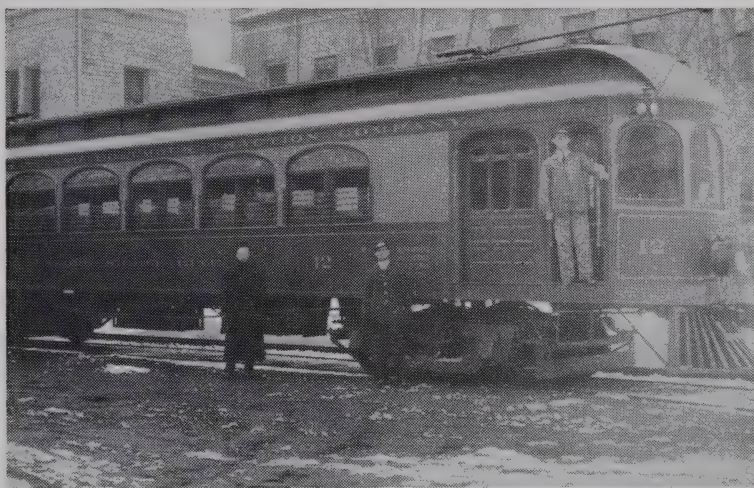


First Streetcar into Hillsboro in 1907.

THE FIRST RAILROAD

The Hillsboro and Cincinnati Railroad Company was organized about 1845. The first regularly scheduled train came into Hillsboro from Loveland on September 22, 1852. Thousands came from the surrounding country and almost all the 1800 villagers turned out, for there were many who had never seen "the great iron horse" or heard it whistle. The Mayor of Cincinnati, the City Council and the Railroad Officials were aboard the gaily decorated flat-car that carried a brass band to play the latest marching tunes and a small brass cannon to salute when over a mile away.

They were met by the officials of Hillsboro: Judge J. Green, Judge Jonas R. Emrie, Wm. Woodrow, Auditor and David Miller, Recorder.



Last Streetcar leaves Hillsboro in 1920.

The Highland Guards, a finely drilled military company, was on hand to escort the group to Scotts Grove, where a big celebration was held. Scotts Grove was on the land where the high school was later erected.

Former President, Rutherford B. Hayes, then a young lawyer in Cincinnati, was one of the speakers of the day. The coming of the railroads to Hillsboro, though they were fraught with disadvantages, made a great difference in the methods of carrying on the businesses and in the style of living. It opened up opportunities of commercial and industrial expansion and the population began to increase. Later, more tracks were laid and more railroads came. At the height of their importance, there were ten passenger trains daily from three competitive lines. The competing lines made better facilities and with their freight connections with surrounding towns and cities, they were able to ship goods and materials all over the nation. The first railroad is now the Baltimore and Ohio System.

THE CRUSADE

In the early days whiskey was considered a necessary household commodity in Hillsboro as it was in most pioneer homes. However, after a lecture by Dr. Dio Lewis, nationally known temperance lecturer, in Music Hall on Dec. 23, 1873, in which he suggested the women endeavor to suppress the liquor traffic in the town, they were so inspired that they met the next morning in the old Presbyterian Church and formed a hurried organization. Mrs. J. H. Thompson, who later became known as "The Mother of the Crusade", was chosen as their leader.

Although it was the day before Christmas, and very cold, seventy women were in the procession that passed from the door of the old church and reached the street singing "GIVE TO THE WINDS THY



Temperance Crusaders pray in front of Hillsboro saloon.

This photograph was made during the Temperance Crusade in Hillsboro in 1873.

FEARS". Two by two they marched in solemn silence, looking neither to the right nor left, until they arrived at the drugstore of Dr. W. R. Smith, now owned and operated by Edwin B. Ayres, Jr. In they marched and kneeling upon the floor offered the first prayer of the Women's Crusade.

A pledge had been hastily drawn up and after much persuasion, Dr. Smith signed it, with the understanding that, he, as a physician, had a right to prescribe and sell liquor on his own prescription.

The temperance movement was so hastily organized that their purpose and how they were going to proceed was not clear in the minds

of the "praying band" as they were called at times. However, they had a great advantage over the saloon keepers, because they were the socially prominent women of the town and in the band were representatives of almost every influential family. Their leader, the saintly and noble "Mother Thompson", a woman of rare culture and refinement, was the wife of a Judge and the daughter of the eighth Governor of Ohio.

Another great leader during the early days of the crusade was Mrs. Henry Foraker, whose son, Joseph Benson Foraker, was later to become, Governor of and Senator from Ohio.

One of the remarkable features of the "Woman's Temperance Movement" was the rapidity with which the fire of enthusiasm spread. When their visitations began there were four durgstores, four hotels and thirteen saloons where intoxicating liquor could be obtained. In less than two weeks from its inauguration, only three of the liquor dealers and W. H. H. Dunn, a druggist, would not sign the pledge. Dunn had obtained an injunction, against the praying and singing band, but before the case was settled, he was bankrupt and the final decision was never rendered.

One of the saloon-keeper holdouts, Jake Uhrig, finally said he would quit if the women would buy his stock and fixtures. This they readily agreed to do and the next night, the whiskey, gin, wines, etc. were piled in the public square and burned. The small stuff and the glassware was decorated, autographed and sent all over the world. In fact, a set of silver cognac bottles are in the Lady Henry Somerset home in England. The bung-starter from the Uhrig saloon served the great crusader, Miss Frances Willard, as a gavel at Woman's Christian Temperance Union meetings.

We learn from the records so carefully kept by the first secretary, Mrs. D. K. Fenner, that in a few weeks after the first prayer was said, the first song was heard, and the first appeal was made in Hillsboro, most of the counties of the State were taken by storm and the movement soon spread throughout the whole Republic and Canada. In June 1874, all the leaders were called to a National Convention in Cleveland. This finally resulted in the founding of the W.C.T.U. and the passing of the 18th Amendment. The four pillars upon which the white ribbon organization stands are: total abstinence, prohibition, purity, a white life for both and for peace.

In 1903, when the National Convention was held in Cincinnati, 500 delegates, many of them from foreign countries, made a pilgrimage here to pay their respects to "Mother Thompson". She was able to be present at the service held in the Memorial Room of the new Presbyterian Church.

When she stood to thank them for the honors bestowed upon her, she received an ovation few people have been permitted to enjoy.

The Memorial Room was set apart by the building committee of the Presbyterian Church and contains all the records and mementos, from the early Crusade days until now, also Memorial Chairs placed in honor of former members by relatives and friends.

Mother Thompson passed away Nov. 3rd, 1905 and was buried in the Hillsboro Cemetery, but in the lives of others her influence will live on and on. Mrs. Sarah A. Doggett, the last of the original band of crusading women died on May 18, 1931.

On July 4, 1919, national publicity was again given to Hillsboro when famous speakers from coast to coast and thousands of out of town visitors, came to participate in the Crusade Jubilee Celebration and to



Monument to Eliza Jane Thompson of the Temperance Crusade. Tall monument in background is to her father, Gov. Allen Trimble.

march with the remaining band over the route taken by the first Crusaders.

In Feb. 1935, a walnut settee, which had been displayed among the historical exhibits at the Century of Progress Fair in Chicago, was placed in the "Crusaders Room" of the Presbyterian Church. A plaque in maple inlay bears the inscription "Beginning of W.C.T.U. in 1873, a great temperance crusade in Hillsboro, Ohio. Prominent women organized to combat valiantly the sale and use of liquor in all its forms. The movement spread to other cities and states, and from this agitation came the Woman's Christian Temperance Union".

The back of the settee consists of three panels; a carved silhouette of Miss Frances E. Willard in the center and pictures of the crusade on either side.

The last of the original band of Crusaders has been laid to rest, but there has been no loss of energy or enthusiasm on the part of the Highland County Christian Temperance Union. Hillsboro has become famous because of its prohibition history, and it is only natural for every citizen to uphold the banner of the first crusade and live up to its traditions.

THE CEMETERIES

The first place set apart for a cemetery, was the lot on the corner of East and North Streets where the Wesleyan Methodist Church now stands. The lot was donated by Benjamin Ellicott, original owner of the land where Hillsboro was laid out. The first person buried there was Andrew Edgar, who had helped to survey the town plot. He died from the bite of a rattlesnake in 1808.

Another burying ground was the old Presbyterian graveyard dating back to 1818. It was located on the north side of Chillicothe Avenue, its center almost directly opposite the intersection of the Marshall and Chillicothe Pikes. When it was abandoned a number of years ago, many of the graves were moved to the present cemetery.

The ground for the Catholic Cemetery, on North High Street, was purchased in 1852. The deed was made to an individual because it was feared the plot could not be purchased if its use was made known. Later, a member of the Catholic Church agreed to pay the purchase price if the congregation would put a bell in the church.

The first meeting of the Hillsboro Cemetery Association was held on May 7, 1859 and the ground for the present cemetery was purchased from Allen Trimble within a few months. The gently rolling land was tastefully and appropriately laid off by a landscape gardener and named Greenwood. The plot contained thirty acres with about five acres set apart for the Independent Order Odd Fellows.

Records show that until 1929 about 3000 persons had been interred. Since then there have been approximately 100 burials per year.

Many who journeyed to Highland County, and those who were born here, lie under the grassy mounds of the Hillsboro Cemetery. Each year the memorial stones increase but the grounds are kept with as much care as if they were just laid out.

In a walk among the homes of the departed, we find the impress of their personality and influence upon the nation at large. Also a great number already mentioned in our brief history and the part they played in the making of our city as it stands today. The McDowells, Trimbles, Thompsons, Prices, Barreres, Boyds, Sams, Bells, Smiths and many, many more. As they rest among the gently sloping hills, their descendants come and go in the same old homes and buildings erected so many years ago.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

In 1874, Frank Picard built a plant to furnish commercial gas for heating and lighting in Hillsboro. On March 10, 1875, the Hillsboro Gas Light Company was incorporated, with fifty consumers. Dr. David Noble was one of the incorporators of the gas company. Very tall poles were used to support the gas mantles and globes. On September 12, 1875, the Hillsboro streets were lighted for the first time. The cost of burning one light was one cent for seven hours. In 1893, another company was formed to furnish electricity. The gas and electric companies were consolidated in 1899, by Lyman Beecher, and the Hillsboro Light and Fuel Company was formed. Irvin McD. Smith was President and A. E. Hough, Secretary.

The Ohio Utilities Co. took charge in 1916 and furnished light and fuel until 1930 when the Southern Ohio Electric Co., bought them out. In 1937 the present utilities company, The Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company, took over.

On January 27, 1941, an ordinance was passed by the village Council of Hillsboro to buy the Hillsboro Gas Company from the Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company.

HILLSBORO WATERWORKS

Early in the 1890's, the Hillsboro Village Council decided a waterworks system was needed and issued bonds for the money for its construction. A site, 2½ miles north of Hillsboro, on the Samantha Turnpike, was purchased for the erection of a pumping station and well lot.

Large holes were blown in the ground by steam pressure and connected to the pumping station by iron pipes. When the station was constructed two steam driven pumps were located in a deep pit, in order to reduce the water level from which the pumps worked. When the pumps were started, they could not draw the water from the wells and a high vacuum pump had to be installed.

A standpipe, 15 feet in diameter and 135 feet in height, was constructed on property north of Collins Avenue.

Deep wells were drilled after the blown wells began to fail. The equipment became antiquated in the 1920's and a diesel engine connected to a piston displacement pump was purchased and used to send the water to the standpipe. High quality, commercial screens were used in new deep wells, the water being forced from the ground by air lift, where a newly constructed clear water reservoir kept water ready for pumping to the standpipe at all times.

A new Board of Affairs took over the management of the waterworks in 1930. Investigation disclosed that water could be delivered to Hillsboro customers much more economically by the use of electric

power. Electrically driven deep well pumps were installed, to bring the water to the surface reservoir and centrifugal pumps were used to put the water in the standpipe. Lights were placed around the top of the standpipe to protect it from planes flying at night and as a beacon to fliers.

After the droughts of the 1930's, the water supply in the wells diminished and the Board was forced to take action. After much drilling and testing, a site for a reservoir was selected, engineers drew plans for both the Clear Creek and reservoir dams, as well as the pumping plant. World War II was in progress and materials were almost unobtainable, however, the dams and the plant were constructed. On Nov. 6, 1946, the new waterworks plant was dedicated. Hillsboro now has



HILLSBORO WATER WORKS

an efficient, modern and adequate water system, so designed that if the water needs increase, a larger water supply can be obtained at a minimum expense.

THE HOSPITAL

The Highlands Community Hospital was organized originally as a stock company and later as a non-profit organization. Its progress has been limited because no tax money has ever been spent on it. Virtually all improvements have been the direct result of charitable gifts from the people of the county and organized groups.

The dignified old brick structure was the former home of George W. Bowers. It contained 17 rooms and halls that were 12 feet wide and

run through the upper and lower floors.

The Hillsboro Hospital was opened as a private institution for profit in April, 1914. After six years, when it did not prove to be a financial success, Mrs. W. C. Whisler, known for her philanthropies, purchased the hospital and gave it to the people of the county.

The Hillsboro Hospital Corp., a non-profit organization, was formed and the management of the hospital was turned over to 12 ladies who had charge of the internal administration including the appointment and discharge of all employees. The affairs of the corporation were administered by a board of eight trustees composed of men.

It was finally decided, after the hospital had been in charge of untrained personnel for a period of time, that a registered nurse should be placed in charge.

Again in October, 1947 the hospital underwent another change and a full-time trained administrator was employed. He replaced the board of lady managers and was directly responsible to the board of trustees. The name, "The Highlands Community Hospital" was adopted on Nov. 4, 1948.

A building fund was established in April, 1955 and had climbed to a good level when it received a boost from two grants, from the Ford Foundation. Today every person in Highland County sincerely interested in the health and well-being of the community is making a tremendous effort to reach the goal—a new, modern hospital for Hillsboro and Highland County.

THE CITY BUILDING

The City Building was located at the corner of South High and West Walnut Streets. The building, commenced in 1875, was finished the following year. "The Town Hall", as it was commonly known, was a familiar landmark with its Seth Thomas Clock. The dial could be seen, and time noted, for a distance of four blocks. The upper story, of the two-story brick building, contained a large hall with seating capacity for a thousand people and was used for public meetings. The Library was housed there until 1948, when it was moved to its new location on West Main Street.

The lower floor contained the Mayor's Office, major Municipal Offices, the City Jail and the Fire Department. It was also the home of the Post Office for a number of years. In February 1949, the City Building was virtually destroyed by fire. The offices and equipment were moved to the building on Court Street formerly used by Richards and Morris as a garage.

On April 14, 1950, what remained of the burned city building and the grounds were sold at public auction. The proceeds of the sale was

placed in a special fund for the maintenance and improvement of the new city building.

THE LIBRARY AND READING ROOM

A public meeting was held in the City Hall in May of 1877, to make plans to utilize the Library Room which had been set apart for that purpose when the City Building was planned. A committee was appointed and subscriptions were solicited from the town residents for the funds necessary to open a Reading Room. On June 4, 1877, the Town Council passed a levy of one-half mill for library purposes and authorized the Reading Room to be made ready for public use.

Reference books, newspapers, magazines and periodicals were ordered. On July 12, 1877 the room was opened to the community with R. J. Duffey, Librarian in charge. Congratulatory remarks at the opening were made by, Rev. W. J. McSurely of the Presbyterian Church, C. S. Bell, one of the leading manufacturers and Prof. Isaac Sams, who had been associated with education in Hillsboro and throughout the State. Although Prof. Sams lived to enjoy the services of the Reading Room for ten years, his speech, on its opening, proved to be his last appearance before the public.

On April 18, 1878 another ordinance was passed, creating a Board of Trustees for a Public Library and setting forth the power and duties of such a board. When the Library Board was organized, Rev. McSurely was its President, Henry S. Doggett, Secretary and Henry M. Huggins, Treasurer. In September of the same year, the first one thousand-four hundred books were received. On October 10, 1878, the Hillsboro Library was thrown open to the public.

The library continued to be housed on the second floor of the City Hall, after it was moved upstairs, until 1948 when it was moved into the first house east of the High School on West Main Street. The present Library Building was the residence of Samuel P. Scott and was in the center of a large estate. The stately, dignified old mansion, is a well preserved example of Hillsboro's residential architecture, showing good taste in design and a fine sense of proportion. It has many interesting details, especially the charming doorway and the octagonal cupola.

The library, from its very beginning, has consistently grown and improved. Today, there are shelves of fiction, recreational reading, specific books for youth and its activities, histories, reference books, and a department devoted especially to young children. Trade journals, magazines, newspapers, periodicals etc., are subscribed to, catalogued and placed in the lending library. An earnest effort is being made to add to the public documents and local histories already in the library.

Although no one has bestowed an entire library of rare books, private individuals and societies have donated small collections and documents. Today there are, in all, 20, 953 volumes. Because it is of county-

wide scope, it is called the "Highland County District Library" and has branches in Lynchburg and Greenfield. It has book collections in the county schools and the grade schools in Hillsboro. Two librarians, a part-time helper and a student page give efficient, courteous service, to the five thousand sixty-four borrowers throughout Highland County.

HILLSBORO FIRES

The first disastrous fire in Hillsboro, occurred when a blaze was discovered about midnight, in the Woodrow Store and Hat making Shop. The shop stood near the north west corner of Beech and High Streets. It was near the old home and adjacent to a new one that had just been erected. It looked like the whole section would be burned out, but a bucket brigade, formed by the neighbors, saved the home.



Damage to buildings in the 1928 fire in the Murphy-Benham store which caused a loss of \$189,000.

The town had a small rotary engine in 1857, but it was worn out when the Denny House caught on fire. The council realized that the need for fire protection was urgent so they immediately established a Fire Company "for the prevention and extinguishing of fires". The Captain, John Reckley, had entire control of the company, with police power to call on others, beside the regular firemen, in case of an emergency. Besides the captain, there were C. McMullen, Lieutenant, two pipemen and not more than thirty additional men. The first engine was received in 1857 and a two-story fire house was erected the same year.

The care of the engine and the service of the entire company was voluntary until 1870, when an ordinance was passed authorizing the

payment of firemen.

In 1873 the Smith Building, on the corner of High and Main Streets, was destroyed by fire. In 1876, a steam fire engine, which was named "Hillsborough", was purchased. Their equipment then consisted of the engine, two hose carriages, surmounted with bells, hook and ladder wagon and a company of fifty-two men. There were three divisions, The Hillsboro Steamer Division, Ranger Division and the Phoenix Division. The Engineer, S. Mahan, received \$600.00 per year, the Stoker, John Warren, \$100.00 and the firemen \$10.00 per year.

In October 1879, the Fire Department had two calls during the month which was very unusual. From January 1878 until March 1880, there were only six fire calls. April 27, 1883, fire was discovered in the



Fire at Smith's Corner in 1873.

Clifton House kitchen, when the Fire Department answered the call they used horses for the first time.

Many of the earlier fires were caused by the explosion of coal oil lamps or the ignition of straw in the stables. The company held monthly meetings, checked their equipment and had fire drills. When Charles Reckley, a fireman for many years, died the firemen took the fire engine and one reel cart as an escort, in honor of his work.

In October 1892, fire broke out in Boyd's Mill and had gained such headway that with the small amount of water available, the firemen were unable to save any of the building. For several days, small fires continued to break out from the embers.

A fire in the loft over the Chapel in the Hillsboro College Building was discovered on May 18, 1894. The water in the cistern was used up

and before the hose could be changed to another well, only the walls of the college were left standing.

The varnishing department in the top story of the Globe Chair Co. warehouse was damaged considerably by fire on Dec. 14, 1902. Firemen were criticized after the fire because the horses had not been exercised. When Council met they appropriated money for a new hose cart, hose and another horse. An arrangement was also made between the Fire Company and the factories, whereby a code of signals would be observed in case of a fire in a factory. They were assigned the number of blasts to be blown if fire was discovered in their factory. So there would be no confusion, they were to blow not more than one blast to begin or quit work.

The Newton Barret Barn and Livery Stable, located where the Ford Motor Co. now stands, caught fire about midnight May 27, 1908. The



Hillsboro's Early Fire Engine on Court St.

Glenn Building and others to the north were damaged. So intense was the heat that C. E. Bell kept foundry workers posted in Bell's Opera House, across the street, to put out the small fires that started in it from time to time.

L. B. Banks Lumber shop and Joe Bell's storage room, on the northeast corner of West and Beech Streets, caught on fire Oct. 31, 1915. The Fire Company received high praise for keeping the fire from spreading to the main business section. The damage was estimated at \$10,000.

Jan. 15, 1921, an American La France, motorized fire truck was purchased in Elmira, New York. The company sent a man from New York

to teach the firemen, H. M. Leslie and Roger Faris, how to operate the truck.

The Murphy-Benham fire, Jan. 20, 1928, was the most disastrous fire that has occurred in Hillsboro. Fire started in the basement of the three-story building on the northwest corner of High and Court Streets. The contents of the Post Office, located on the first floor, were completely destroyed. Law offices on the second floor were damaged and several persons attending a dance on the third floor had to struggle to get to safety. The Palace Theater, on the north, Clarks Store, now Shaeffers, the Lyle Printing Office and the Elks Lodge above it, were either completely destroyed or damaged severely. The old Traction Building was burned to the ground. Washington C. H. sent their equipment, which was very effective, but a chemical truck from Chillicothe was useless because the temperature was 8 degrees above zero. When the fire was finally under control the damage was estimated at \$189,000.

The Geyler Furniture Factory caught fire on August 21, 1933 when a workman, with cleaning fluid on his hands, turned on a light switch. The Globe Chair Factory, established in 1891, when destroyed by fire on March 22, 1938, was one of the largest industries in Hillsboro. They employed 200 men and manufactured about 7000 wooden chairs per week.

Hillsboro has won fame in many ways and will go down in history as one of the few places, where fire destroyed the City Building housing the Fire Department. In February of 1947 the building was virtually destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt for use by the city.

In 1870 a plant was established to manufacture patent shears and button hole cutters. In 1888 the Star Manufacturing Plant was incorporated, its specialty was the Globe Carriage Fastener, the invention of Samuel P. Scott.

Hillsboro newspaper subscribers years ago were told why an X was marked in front of their name on their weekly edition. The X, when it appeared, indicated their subscription had run out with that issue. This bit of intelligence was printed in an early issue of the newspaper.

Dr. D. S. Guthrie purchased the early drug store of Dr. L. D. Vickers on High near Main St. He sold pure drugs and medicines as well as Costar's Vermin Exterminators with the following jingle:

As Spring approaches
Ants and roaches
From their holes come out,
And mice and rats
In spite of cats
Gaily skip about.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The beginning of real substantial progress of any community or town is closely linked with the establishment and growth of its financial institutions. The first banks in Hillsboro were small private banks. In 1854, John A. Smith, son of the pioneer merchant, and the Barrere brothers, Nelson and Benjamin, started one of the private banks under the name, "Barrere and Co.". In the spring of 1865 it merged into the Hillsboro National Bank with John Smith as President. In 1885 it was rechartered and renamed "The First National Bank of Hillsboro". In 1894, when Samuel P. Scott was its President, and John Hulitt the Cashier, the bank was rendered insolvent.

The Citizens National Bank was established in 1872 as the Citizens Bank, with J. C. Gregg, President and C. M. Overman, Cashier. It was in business for nearly thirty years when it was finally closed.

The Merchants National Bank was established in 1866, as a private bank, under the name "Banking House of F. Evans and Ferris". It is the oldest bank in the county. For many years after its organization it was housed in what is now known as the Hillsboro Bank building. The business continued to expand, and in 1900 the Asa Haynes property on the north east corner of Main and High Streets was purchased. When the Haynes building was erected in 1847, it had been substantially constructed but was practically rebuilt for the bank's purposes. Three stories high and surmounted by a tower, when completed, it added to the appearance of the whole public square and did away with the loafers roost that had been a nuisance for a long time.

Dec. 26, 1879, the Merchants Bank was converted into a National Bank under the national banking laws. Henry Strain was elected President of the newly organized bank, and, upon his death, Emily Leroy Ferris succeeded him. Mr. Ferris' Bank, as it was frequently called, steadily grew in influence and no bank has a better record for service and dependability. Although it is the pioneer financial institution of the county, its management has always combined the experience of age with the progressive spirit of youth and has always had a keen insight into the needs and banking requirements of its friends and patrons.

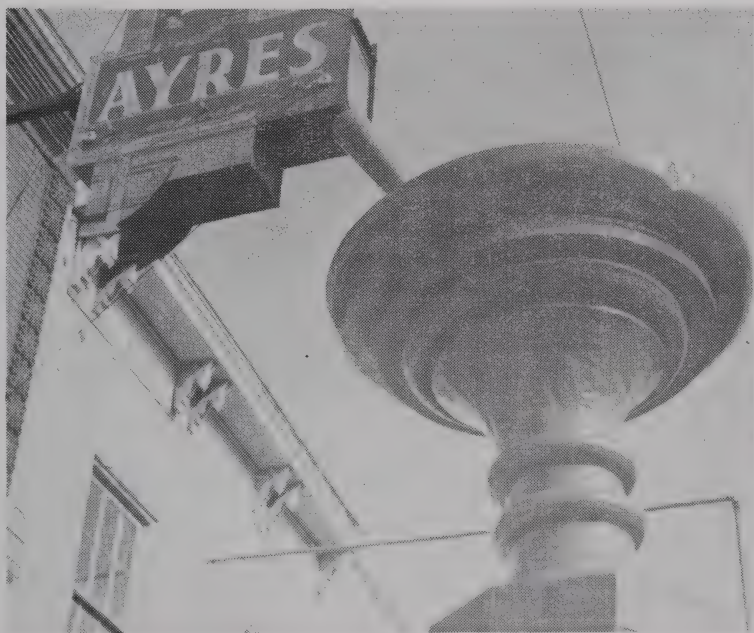
In 1894 a charter was issued to the Farmer's and Trader's Bank, which also started as a private bank. In 1908, application was made for a charter to become a National Bank, for greater security. J. B. W. Spargur was President and Albert Matthews, who had formerly been Cashier of the Merchants Bank, became its Cashier. Since then the bank has always carried on its affairs honestly and sincerely. Its earning power has increased as is shown by the fact that it is a "Roll of Honor Bank"—meaning the surplus more than doubles the capital.

The Hillsboro Bank was organized in 1898 and opened its doors for business on the corner of South High and Main Streets. R. S. Evans was chosen President. He had been Vice President of both other banks

before assuming its presidency. In 1909, it became the Hillsboro Bank and Savings Company and was the first to introduce the Savings Department into local banking systems. Its Officers and Directors have always been men of good reputation and integrity and the bank a strong financial institution.

AT THE SIGN OF - - -

In the early settlement of Hillsboro, it was the practice of shopkeepers to display a symbol of their trade above the entrance to their business or on top of their building. Jacob Schilly, sold boots and shoes on High Street at the sign of "The Golden Shoe". John Hibben had a



The huge mortar and pestal are still seen in front of one of Ohio's oldest drug stores. Erected in 1876 this has become a Hillsboro landmark.

retail and wholesale Hat Store near the public square, and, not to be outdone, used "The Golden Hat" as his symbol. He sold smooth castors, otters, beavers (in both black and white) fine saxonies and various kinds of wool hats. John Undfrill's Boot and Shoe Store was also located on North High, and he proposed to "always sell for cash, but would take country produce as he needed it".

Peter L. Ayres had an Iron and Hardware Store on High Street in the early 1840's. He sold Shaker Brooms made in the Shaker Colony, near Lebanon, Warren County, Ohio. Also summer mould candles,

spoke shaves, iron braces, bar iron at 4 cents per pound, percussion matches and assorted bed cords.

In 1866, Ike S. Myers had a ready made Clothing and Gents Furnishings Shop, and "other items too numerous to particularize", on the northwest corner of Short and Main Streets, in what became known as the Glascock Building. Schack and Uhrig also ran a saloon and bakery in the building.

Benjamin Barrere had a Ladies and Gentleman's Ready-to-Wear Store in the old Smith Building, on the northwest corner of High and Main Streets. Later, Haynes and West bought his stock and operated the store. Wesley Copes Shoe and Hat Store, John E. Hoggsett's Furniture and Queensware Store and James Dill's store were all on Main Street opposite the courthouse.

Mrs. Lucy Reed sold bonnets, flowers, ribbons and trimmings generally, at the sign of "The Gilt Star". John Bowles opened the Hillsborough Book Store over a century ago, in the third room east of the Parker House on Main Street. He sold Godey's and Graham's Ladies Books.

J. C. Rittenhouse had his first store in Lilly's Block on South High Street, where he sold Boots and Shoes at "Panic Prices". Later, he built the building immediately south of the Hillsboro Hardware Store, and operated in it. "The Palace," where he sold shoes made to order, fine kid shoes, goat button shoes and men's plough shoes.

I. P. Strauss & Bro. manufactured men's fashionable clothing, later it became Strauss & Feibel, I. A. Feibel and finally, the popular Feibel Bros. Store. They were the "Bound to Please Clothiers" and sold "fine and cheap clothing" for everybody.

J. H. Richards started a dry goods store about the time the Civil War ended. Later, it became the Richards Bros., Chas. Spencer Dry Goods Store and in now the Hillsboro Dry Goods Store. Spargur Bros. were located in the Masonic Temple Building and the rooms now occupied by the Murphy-Benham Hdwe. Co., before the Spargur Building was erected on East Main in 1887.

J. S. Bertoli had a grocery where Creed's Store is now located. He advertised for "20,000 lbs. of good butter for shipping" and "would exchange groceries for good bacon". Henry Strain and Henry Turner both had grocery stores on West Main Street for a number of years. Wesley Copes sold boots and shoes and later sold groceries in the Copes Building on West Main Street.

There are several well remembered jewelers, among them, Frank Emmerling, Jacob Sayler, Eli and Benjamin Muntz.

Tailoring early became a leading industry in Hillsboro. C. Lang, the first tailor, was followed by many, many skilled workmen. Among them, Michael Haller, Isaac Crosby, G. W. Tucker, John C. Hubbard,

John G. Neuber and more recently, J. G. Oonk and the present Mayor of Hillsboro, Karl Doebele.

John Fallon, an Irish American, established the first coal business and was also a dealer in lime. He was the Adams Express Co. agent for nearly twenty years.

EARLY HOTELS AND LIVERIES

The Parker House Hotel has had a long and varied career. It stands on the site of the first tavern in Hillsboro where the first courts were held and the first couple married. About 1830, it was enlarged and became the Eagle Hotel. There was also a period when it was called Ellicott House, famous for its fine food. There was a livery stable directly behind the hotel. Two hacks left the House semi-weekly for Chillicothe and Ripley.

The White Line Livery barn was on Walnut Street across the alley from the Parker House.

The Kramer House was located on West Main Street in the building across the alley from the Bell Telephone Co. The livery and feed stable behind the hotel was operated for many years by Jacob Shack, known for his ready wit. Many stories are remembered, by the oldsters, of his banter with Billy Burley, Baltimore and Ohio railroad conductor.

The Woodrow House, a very popular early hotel, was later called the Clifton House. It stood on the corner where the Armory is located. Cyrus Fairley operated a livery stable on the alley back of the hotel and Jacob Uhrig had a barn across the alley.

The Highland House, built in the 1840's by Peter L. Ayres as a residence, when enlarged, became a resident hotel. The Highland House Feed and Sales Rooms were located at the rear of the building.

The Jefferson House, like the other hotels, changed names when the managers changed. It was called the National Hotel and Schermer House. The large building nearest the B. & O. Railroad Station, formerly housed the hotel. Joseph Vinsonhaller had a livery and feed stable east of the hotel.

Hugh J. Ervin, operated a livery and feed stable in the brick building now occupied by Myers Seed Co. C. A. Roush ran a livery barn on North High Street where Homer Gass has his tire shop.

A blacksmith shop was located very close to each of the livery barns, a necessity, because "Old Dobbin" had to be kept ready to hit the road.

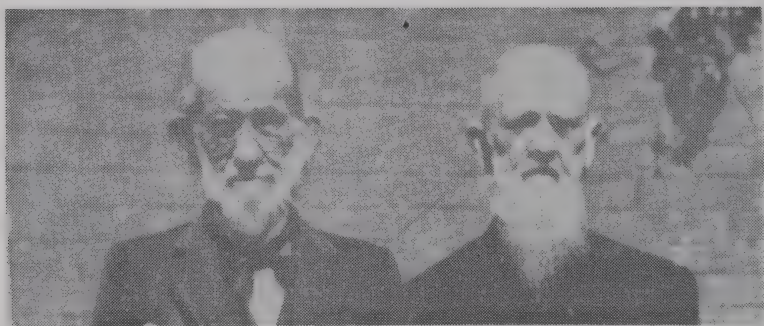
HIGHLAND COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

The second county Medical Society in Ohio was organized in Hillsboro in 1838. Most of the regular practitioners of the county belonged to the organization, that met annually. Dr. Jacob Kirby was selected as the first President and Dr. C. C. Sams, Secretary. After the Civil War, the Society was re-organized and met semi-annually. Essays were read and discussed, the members reported on various diseases and cases and the sanitary conditions of their locality.

When the early members died, they were honored by the Medical Society attending their funeral on horseback, as was the custom of visiting patients in the early days of the medical pioneers of the county.

HILLSBORO DOCTORS

Hillsboro and Highland County have always been, and still are, fortunate in the character and standing of the doctors who have chosen to live and work here. It is impossible for us, with our modern day sulfas, antibiotics, tranquilizers and other new and mystifying drugs, to fully appreciate the primitive manner in which our pioneer physicians administered to the wants and sick needs of the scattered settlers.



Dr. John Boyd was Hillsboro's first wilderness doctor.

His two sons are pictured here from an old photograph. J. Milton Boyd on left was one of the founders of the Episcopal Church in Hillsboro. His brother, Rev. John Boyd on right also was well-known in the community.

Most of the first medical men were army officers who had heard a few lectures and were supposed to know how to care for the sick. Though crude, the doctor, astride his horse, with his saddle bags always near, was a most welcome sight. In the bags he carried unrefined drugs, leaves, bark and a few instruments for bleeding and sewing up wounds. There being no pharmacists, the doctor compounded his own medicine, using local herbs and roots. They shared the privations and hardships of the pioneers and made all their own decisions, because there were no other doctors near to consult.

As far as can be learned, Dr. John Boyd was the first doctor to brave the wilderness, practicing even before Hillsboro became a town. He became highly esteemed in his profession and served also as an Associate Judge of the Common Pleas Court. Later he moved to a farm about twelve miles east of town, on the Chillicothe Pike, where he ran Boyd's Mill on Rocky Fork. His son, J. Milton Boyd, a well-known Hillsboro business man, was one of the founders of the Episcopal Church.

One of the foremost names among the pioneer doctors was that of Jasper Hand, an imminent and educated man, who came from Pennsylvania in 1808. He served as a surgeon in the war of 1812 and when the war was over, was elected Brigadier General of the Highland Militia. He was a skillful physician and earned the title of surgeon, because of the many cases of fractured limbs from the falling trees and the wounds from the axes used in cutting timber. Dr. Hand's youngest daughter, Margaret, was the wife of W. W. Dawson, one of the early professors of surgery in the Ohio State Medical College.

Dr. Jacob Kirby and his twin brother, Moses, came to Hillsboro from Virginia and were sent to a classical school taught by James Gilliland in the Red Oak Church, south of Russellville, Ohio. Later they graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1823, Dr. Kirby became a partner of Dr. Hand until the latter's death in 1828. He continuously pursued, along with his other public duties, his medical practice for over fifty years. He was a State Representative and a Senator from the counties of Highland and Fayette. His daughter, Anne, became the wife of Dr. W. R. Smith, a partner of Dr. Kirby.

When Dr. Kirby died, March 26, 1873, the Medical Society attended his funeral on horseback as a token of respect and in regard for the manner in which he had visited his patients.

They said, also, that perhaps no doctor in Southern Ohio had enjoyed so large a share of the public confidence. He had answered the call of suffering humanity, visited the cabin of the poor and the mansion of the rich, braved disease and danger wherever duty led, regardless of fee or mercenary reward. He was in attendance at the birth of over four thousand future Highland Countians.

Dr. Isaac Telfair settled in Hillsboro in 1825 and practiced for many years. Dr. David Noble, of Irish descent, came to Highland County in 1840 and settled in Sugartree Ridge. Money was so scarce that he did not finish his education until 1855, when he received his diploma from Starling Medical College in Columbus. He enlisted as a private in the Civil War but was soon made a surgeon. He returned to Hillsboro after the war and was a prominent doctor and a generous citizen for many years.

Dr. Enos Holmes, another graduate of Starling, came to town about 1837. His son, Dr. B. F. Holmes, also a graduate of the same medical school as his father, practiced here with him for many years.

Dr. Samuel J. Spees, first resident physician in Lynchburg, came to Hillsboro in 1850. Dr. R. C. Russ, another early physician, contributed scientific articles to medical magazines. Dr. R. H. Ayres sold dysentery syrup, also botanic medicines from the East at his medical establishment. Dr. J. M. Johnston, Dr. R. O. Matthews, Dr. S. G. Richards, Dr. W. S. Patterson and Dr. W. Wallace Shepherd all practiced in Hillsboro for a number of years. Dr. A. R. Howell had an office one door south of Smith's Corner and Dr. George J. Hardy of Petersburg respectfully tendered his professional services as a practitioner in medicine, surgery and mid-wifery. Dr. Wm. Hoyt, born in Canada in 1839, came to Hillsboro in 1867. He was the first homoeopathic physician in Highland County.

There are many more early physicians and those that came later, worthy of mention. Their work and influence was unending. In the beginning, visits in the village were a cut quarter, and acting as dentists they received a like amount for extracting a tooth. They were usually self-sacrificing and lonely, answering the call of humanity promptly, with their saddle bags astride a good horse, they wended their way through the tangled woods and unbroken forests that was then Highland County. They were active in religious, educational and political matters, but their strongest characteristic was charity. The credit side of their ledgers read, so much corn, oats, potatoes, butter etc., but very, very little cash.

Mention should be made of another great humanitarian, Dr. J. C. Larkin, who practiced in Hillsboro for over fifty years and was prominently identified with practically every professional, social and municipal organization of the town.

HILLSBORO LEGAL PROFESSION

The bar of Highland County, very early in our history, won wide recognition for its professional ability. Eminent lawyers from the surrounding counties attended the earlier sessions of our court; such men as Richard Douglas and Joseph Sill of Ross County, Thomas Corwin and Phineas Ross of Warren and Thomas L. Hamer of Brown. Soon, however, a number of prominent lawyers located in Hillsboro and became distinguished throughout the State, for their high standard of skill and learning, a legacy which has been handed down through the years to our present members of the legal profession.

GEN. RICHARD COLLINS

General Richard Collins, son of a pioneer Methodist preacher, was liberally educated in New Jersey and has the distinction of being the first lawyer to settle permanently in Highland County. He came in 1816 and, two years later, was appointed prosecuting attorney of the county. He was a personal friend of Henry Clay, the great statesman and political

ian of Kentucky. He represented the county successively in both branches of the state legislature 1820-25.

His son, John A., born in Hillsboro in 1824, was admitted to the bar in Cincinnati in 1845. Governor Thomas Corwin said, after working with him, that, "he had the most natural intellect of twenty years that he had ever known". He moved to New Orleans and became the partner of S. S. Prentiss, one of America's most illustrious lawyers.

Another son of Gen. Collins, Charles H., was born in Maysville, Ky. in 1834 and received his basic education at the academy in the town of his birth. He was admitted to the bar in Batavia, Ohio in 1855. He settled in Hillsboro in 1864. Besides being one of the most eminent lawyers of Southern Ohio, he also gained a wide reputation for his contribution of prose and poetry to the press, he was a standard among the citizens for his literary criticism.

GEN J. J. McDOWELL

General Joseph J. McDowell, whose father was a member of the State Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States, came to Hillsboro in 1829 and engaged in the mercantile business for six years. He was admitted to the bar in 1836 and commenced practicing law in partnership with Col. Wm. O. Collins. He served three years in the General Assembly of Ohio and was elected to Congress in 1843, to represent his District in the House of Representatives; he was re-elected in 1845.

JUDGE WINSTON PRICE

Judge John Winston Price, an honor graduate of Wm. and Mary College, studied law in Richmond, Va. under the instruction of John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States. He came to Hillsboro in 1831 and formed a partnership with General R. Collins. In 1834 he became President (now termed Presiding) Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the circuit composed of Adams, Brown, Clermont, Highland and Fayette Counties.

WILLIAM OLIVER COLLINS

Wm. Oliver Collins was admitted to the bar in Highland County in 1835. He was Prosecuting Attorney for four years and Secretary of the Milford and Chillicothe Turnpike Co. when it was first organized. He was a trustee of the Academy and President of the Hillsboro Agricultural Society. When he was a member of the State Senate of Ohio, he was chairman of the standing committee of railroads. He was a Colonel in the 11th Ohio Cavalry and took his son Caspar Wever Collins, aged 17, with him when the regiment went west to fight the Indians

At the age of twenty-one, Caspar lost his life leading a detachment of 24 Cavalrymen to almost certain death, in a futile attempt to rescue a wagon train. Because of his bravery, Caspar, Wyoming, the second largest city in that state, is named for young Caspar Collins and each year they celebrate "Caspar Collins Day".

JUDGE JAMES H. THOMPSON

James Henry Thompson, son of a Kentucky lawyer of fine ability, practiced in Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio until 1842 when he came to Hillsboro to make his home near his wife's relatives, the Allen Trimbles. His wife, Eliza J., became famous for starting the Woman's Crusade in 1873 that spread throughout the nation. In 1867 he was appointed deputy registrar in bankruptcy for the Sixth District. He served in this capacity for 11 years. He achieved fame as a land lawyer for the Virginia Military Lands and also a criminal lawyer in the defense of those tried for treason.

AND OTHERS

Many other notable men have been associated with the legal profession in Hillsboro. Moses Kirby held, at different times, the office of Probate Judge and Prosecuting Attorney. He was State Senator and a member of the State Legislature. The Hon. Sam Galloway, eminent lawyer and politician, represented his district in Congress. He was a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln and Gov. Tod. Hon. Nelson Barre, born in Highland County, was a legal advisor and a member of congress from the community. Known as a citizen of culture, he was highly honored by his profession and everyone that knew him.

Robert Townsend Hough was a graduate of the Cincinnati Law School and solicitor of Internal Revenue during Cleveland's administration. Judge Cyrus Newby, admitted to the bar in 1876, held public office for many years. In 1907 he took a prominent part in the celebration of the Hillsboro Centennial.

These and many, many more, make up the list of early men who gained prominence as lawyers, judges etc. in Hillsboro. We are justly proud of their records, for their opinions and decisions have made Highland County Courts distinguished throughout the state.

FAMOUS HILLSBORO PERSONALITIES

Many famous names are woven into the early history of Hillsboro. It would be interesting to comment at length on their lives and characteristics. Lack of space prohibits mentioning them all, but a representative few will be given.

ALLEN TRIMBLE

The County and the State are indebted to Allen Trimble, foremost leader among the early settlers, for his work during our first fifty years. Though he was not born in Hillsboro, he aided in shaping its destiny and gave prestige to the town. He served in the war of 1812, took his seat in the first General Assembly that convened in Columbus. He was in official positions for over twenty-five years as Representative, Senator, Speaker of the Senate and was the first Highlander chosen as Chief Executive of our State. In 1822, he became the eighth Governor of Ohio, completing Governor Brown's unexpired term. In 1826, he became the tenth Governor by election and served two terms 1826-30. While acting Governor in 1822, he appointed a Committee of the Legislature to formulate an Ohio public school system. He was the first President of the State Board of Agriculture, served as a State Canal Commissioner and was President of the first Turnpike Company.

His brother, William Allen Trimble, opened a law office in the village in 1811. His maiden speech was made in the public square to the citizen soldiers of the county who had rallied to the call of their country. When the soldiers left to fight in the war of 1812, he was among them and remained in the service until 1818. He was elected United States Senator from Ohio 1819-20. He returned to the Senate in 1821 and died, while in office, from an old wound received in the war. He was buried in the National Cemetery in Washington, D. C. under the auspices of the Senate.

REV. J. McD. TRIMBLE

Rev. Joseph McDowell Trimble, D. D., son of Allen Trimble, was a traveling minister for the Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He received in all, 48 appointments from the church authorities. During his ministry, which began in 1828, he was the most widely known Methodist Minister in the State of Ohio.

HON. GEO. W. BARRERE

Hon. George W. Barrere of New Market, was the first deputy surveyor in the district of which Highland County is a part. He was in the Indian War of 1791-95, was present at St. Clair's defeat, was under Gen. Wayne in the Battle of Fallen Timbers and witnessed the surrender of Gen. Hull in 1812.

JOSEPH BENSON FORAKER

Joseph Benson Foraker was born near Rainsboro in Highland County. He fought in the war of the Rebellion and was with Gen. Sherman on his march to the sea. He was a graduate of Cornell University, a

Judge of the Superior Court of Cincinnati, Judge of the Supreme Court of Ohio, Governor of the State for two terms, 1886-1890, and a United States Senator.

Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana was born in Sugartree Ridge. He was another Highland Countian whose name is written on the nation's Honor Roll. When Senators Foraker and Beveridge were in the Senate, they were the only two members born in the same county, serving in the United States Senate.

HUGH FULLERTON

Hugh, "Ching", Fullerton, son of Dr. H. S. Fullerton, was born in Hillsboro in 1873. He began writing for newspapers at a very early age. He was recognized as an authority on baseball and became one of the greatest baseball writers of all time. He also wrote about boys and became interested in their welfare. His death occurred Dec. 17, 1945. He was laid to rest in the Hillsboro Cemetery.

DR. SAMUEL GALLOWAY HIBBEN

Dr. Samuel Galloway Hibben, grandson of the founder of Hibbens Store, is acknowledged to be one of the foremost lighting experts in the world. As early as 1918 he helped assemble special electrical apparatus to be shipped to France. He has figured prominently in many of the country's outstanding lighting installations. He designed the street lighting for the Shriners Convention in Washington, D. C. in 1923. The special lighting in the Holland Vehicular Tunnels, Virginia Natural Bridge, Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, the Statue of Liberty, the Washington Monument and the Endless Caverns of Virginia are only a few of his accomplishments. He also was responsible for lighting the Century of Progress Exposition, Chicago and the special illumination of the New York's World Fair in 1939.

He was Director of Applied Lighting, Westinghouse Division, in Bloomfield, N. J., for a number of years. He has also devoted a lot of time to lectures on various phases of lighting and has written many technical articles on the subject.

Another descendant of S. E. Hibben, was the late Dr. John Grier Hibben, who succeeded ex-President Woodrow Wilson as President of Princeton University.

ROY HAYNES

Roy Haynes, writer and prohibitionist, was born in Hillsboro, June 10, 1921. He was appointed National Prohibition Commissioner under the Harding and Coolidge Administration.

ADMIRAL JOHN J. BALLENTINE

Admiral John J. Ballentine was born in Hillsboro Oct. 4, 1896. He attended school in Hillsboro before his appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. He graduated from the Academy and was commissioned an Ensign on June 29, 1917. He subsequently progressed in rank, attaining the rank of Vice Admiral to date from Nov. 1, 1949. When he was transferred to the retired list of the U. S. Navy May 1, 1954 he was advanced to the rank of admiral on the basis of combat awards. In addition to the Silver Star Medal, the Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars and Combat "V", Bronze Star Medal, the Commendation Ribbon and the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, Admiral Ballentine has the World War I Victory Medal, the Yangtze Service Medal, the American Defense Service Medal with Bronze "A"; American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one silver star, World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp and the National Defense Service Medal. He also has the Navy Expert Pistol Shot Medal.

From the Government of Greece he received the decoration Grand Cross of the Order of Phoenix and was named Commander in the French National Order of the Legion of Honor.

Admiral Ballentine was recalled to active duty in Nov. 1956 and is on duty in the Pentagon in Washington with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

IMPORTANT HILLSBORO VISITORS

Many national celebrities have visited and been entertained in Hillsboro and Highland County homes from the earliest settlement, until the present day. Henry Clay, famous lawyer and statesman from Kentucky, tried cases in the court at New Market. General William Henry Harrison, Duncan McArthur and Ebenezer Buckingham of Zanesville, were entertained a number of times. In 1825, Dewitt Clinton, famous Erie Canal Governor of New York State, visited his personal friends, the Allen Trimbles. Daniel Webster was in Hillsboro and Leesburg in 1833.

Thomas Corwin, later Governor of Ohio, one of the most distinguished orators of his day, gave his maiden speech at New Petersburg, when he was candidate for congress. Durbin Ward, a leading democratic orator of Warren County, spoke in Hillsboro on September 23, 1867, when he was U. S. District Attorney. His former home, "Glendower" in Lebanon, Ohio, is now the Warren County Museum.

Miss Frances Willard, National Prohibition President, visited Hillsboro many times and participated in W.C.T.U. celebrations. Wm. Jennings Bryan spoke on prohibition in the Presbyterian Church on Oct. 7, 1919. Bryan, James Cox, Governor Willis and Wm. McKinley all gave campaign speeches when they were seeking the presidency.

The chautaugua brought many famous personalities: Governor Hoadley, Senators Gore and Murdock and John L. Sullivan, former world's heavyweight boxing champion.

July 21, 1900, Col. Wm. F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill" and his congress of Rough Riders of the world, appeared at the Fair Grounds for one day only. The rough riders, who had appeared with Teddy Roosevelt, gave their realistic presentation of "The Charge up San Juan Hill".

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment was an essential part of the lives of the early settlers. Traveling was kept to a minimum and the people, drawn together by their common interests, arranged their social gatherings so they would be serviceable to someone. New arrivals were welcomed with house raisings, log rollings and choppings. The men did most of the work while the women cooked the wild fowl, fish, game, etc., that was so abundant. Courtships, marriages and deaths also formed occasions for whole neighborhoods to get together.

When meat became scarce, hunting parties were arranged and the "Kill" was shared. Bear meat was commonly used. The hunters would find a tree where a bear was holed up for the winter and cut the tree down. Deer meat was plentiful and, to keep it for future use, it was dried before the fire until all the moisture was gone. This type of meat was called jerked venison. Vegetable gardens were put in as soon as the season allowed and the woods were hunted for greens and berries.

As the communities became settled, our own grandmothers can remember about the quiltings, flax pullings, husking bees, sugarmaking camps, ciphering matches, spelling bees, threshings and also the elections. After they had spent the day working together, supper was served and the evening spent in dancing or other activities.

Churches offered opportunities for social contact as choirs and other musical groups were formed. The church fairs are always spoken of with awe because the women, with so few conveniences or tools with which to work, could contribute beautiful and artistic articles. Many people today also remember the camp meetings. Sometimes they were held in the forest, the courthouse and later in tents set up on public grounds.

Eagle spring, about a mile from the courthouse on the New Market Pike, was one of the first recreational areas. Private parties, picnics, fourth of July and other celebrations were held around the spring in nice weather. The sportsmen engaged in chicken fights, pitching the dollar, mumbly-de-peg and shooting exhibitions.

Lyceum courses and debating societies did much to enlighten and entertain. Later there were lecture bureaus and chautauguas. The latter were held in tents erected either on the Webster School Grounds

or on Smiths' Field at the foot of the South High Street hill. The Hillsboro Lyceum Club was organized with an intellectual purpose in mind. It was started in 1856 with Hon. Sam E. Hibben, president, and Walter Doggett as secretary. Their programs were in the nature of addresses or debates and were said to be wonderful in oratory and logical conclusions. There were other literary clubs, the Reading Club, active in 1873, with Starling Smith, Livy Boyd, Andrew Barry, Mrs. J. J. Pugsley and Miss Annie Meek as a part of the membership.

Some groups were organized for purely social reasons, such as the Social Club, with C. E. Bell, Ham Quinn and John Matthews as managers, The Knights of McGinty, whose motto was "Should old acquaintance be forgot" and the Farmers Club, an unofficial group of gentlemen farmers of the town. This group met each evening for years at Smiths Drug Store for an hour of social intercourse. (This expression was in common use many years ago as indicated by correspondence of that time.)

Hillsborians have always cultivated a correct taste for sacred and all other kinds of music and it has filled a niche in the social life of the town. One of the most outstanding bands in Southern Ohio was the 13th Regimental Band O N G, formed 1878 by merging the Noble Light Guard Band with the old Hillsboro Cornet Band, which had been in existence since it was organized in 1840 and was the official band of "Old Tippecanoe" Harrison. There have been many others, among them the Hillsboro Military Band, Ladies Aristo Band, organized and managed by A. D. Morehead, and the Drum and Bugle Corps of the American Legion.

There were music clubs, glee clubs, dance recitals and organ recitals. Long to be remembered are the organ recitals given at the turn of the century in the Episcopal Church by its Rector, Ze Barney T. Phillips who was a master of the pipe organ. His beautiful and powerful baritone voice brought joy to all who were privileged to hear it. He was assisted by Phil Berg, violinist, Ulric De Haas, flutist and many other guest artists.

Music festivals were given by the Hillsboro Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Wm. H. T. Shade. Adolph Woerst, a noted violinist from Cincinnati was the guest soloist at several of the concerts. The Hillsboro Conservatory of Music did much to instruct and create a desire for refined and elevated musical tastes. They held quarterly public concerts at which cantatas, oratorios and operas were given. The Choral Society, of over 100 mixed voices, was one of the most prominent features of the college. Their rendition of "Haydn's Creation" was their crowning work.

Mention should be made here of the Hillsboro High School Band which has been under the direction of George Miller for 26 years and is today one of the outstanding high school bands in the state.

The earliest entertainments were held in various halls about town. The City Hall, the Armory Hall, which was in the Quinn Building on the northwest corner of Main and West Streets, the Smith Hall over the Farmer's and Trader's Bank or in Music Hall on the third floor of the old Spargur Bros. building, now the Murphy Benham Hardware Co.

Carl Knarlblock, brought an entirely different type of entertainment to Hillsboro when he opened his "Nickleodeon", the first motion picture show in town, in the room where Betty Barker has her hat and dress shop on High Street. Later it was moved to the Morgan Building on West Main Street. "The Fair Theatorium", or as it was later called, "The Forum", was opened in 1905 in the room where the Pence Sewing Machine Co., is now located. N. E. Chaney opened the Orpheum on March 17, 1908 in the north half of the room occupied by Shaffers Super Market on High Street. Ira DeHaas began showing movies in the Palace Theater in 1921 where Dickerson's Restaurant is located.

In those days there were no well defined tastes in movies, the best seat in the theater could be had for five cents. The film characters moved, or jumped out of freight cars, threw custard pies with happy abandon. No plot was needed.

Sometime in the early 1920's the Orpheum and the Forum were consolidated and very soon the Orpheum was closed. New sound equipment was installed in the Forum in January 1932.

BELL'S OPERA HOUSE

Work was started on an opera house for Hillsboro March 23, 1895. The work progressed rapidly and on Nov. 20-21, 1895 Bell's Opera House was dedicated. The building was erected on the site previously occupied by a row of shanties known as "Rat Row" which for years had been an eye-sore to Hillsboro.

The magnificent building, complete in every detail, lacked none of the necessities of theatrical construction. The house was lighted throughout by electricity and heated by steam. The stage opening was 30 by 25 feet and the seating capacity was about 1,000.

The drop curtains and scenery were done by Thomas Moses of the Schiller Theater in Chicago. The canvas curtain, depicting so prophetically, "The Birth of Civilization" was a work of art.

The house rules were to be so kept that ladies and gentlemen could spend an evening pleasantly, free from the annoyance of the unruly.

The opera house was made possible by the public spirit and enterprise of C. S. Bell, founder of Bell's Foundry. It was a complement to Hillsboro and brought a high order of drama to the theater-going public.

Edwin Milton Royle's comedy drama, "Friends" with Marguerite Otto, of the Metropolitan Opera House, was presented on the opening

night to a capacity audience. The second night a romantic drama in four acts, "Mexico" was given.

The Keystone Comedy Co., The Howard Dorsett Co., the McCauley Co., and many others came for week-long engagements for years. Al. G. Fields and Gus Sun's Minstrels brought laughs and smiles to many in Hillsboro before becoming world-famous.

The Wilson Theatrical Co. besides their cast of characters, always brought a carload of baggage and scenery with them.

In 1897 Edison's Vitascope, with Alva Edison, Jr., in charge, showed their animated pictures for one night only. The pictures of the Trilby Dance, Police Drill, Rob Roy Trio and many others were life-size and so life-like they appeared real.

On May 18, 1923 Bell's Opera House opened as a moving picture show and an era of drama in Hillsboro ended.

ORGANIZATIONS

Hillsboro, very early, showed an interest in fraternal and service organizations. The Masonic Orders were the first lodges chartered in the county. A dispensation was granted by the grand lodge of Ohio on Jan. 9, 1817 to open and work a lodge of Masons in Hillsboro. The F. A. & M. Highland Lodge No. 38 was chartered on March 2, 1817. Public ceremonies were held in the courthouse, George W. Barrere was chosen from the seven charter members as the first Worthy Master.

The Masonic Temple was first used in 1876. It was a beautiful three-story brick structure and the pride of the county. August 26, 1916 extensive remodeling was started, the building was stuccoed and a new roof added. Oct. 5, 1917, the temple was rededicated and one-hundred years of Masonic Orders in Hillsboro were celebrated.

Lafayette Lodge No. 25, Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted in Hillsboro on Jan. 16, 1844.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie No. 1161, was chartered Jan. 28, 1905 with a roster of 56 original members. Eagle Hall, at the intersection of Short and Court Streets was dedicated Dec. 18, 1949. There were over 700 members at the time of the dedication. The Hall was remodeled into the one-story structure from Carroll Hall formerly occupied by the Hillsboro Implement Co. and the Armory. Several garages also used the building, Stanley and Leslie and Carl Haley were among them.

The G. A. R. was organized on April 6, 1866.

April 17, 1919 authority was granted for the organization of the Hillsboro Chapter of the American Red Cross. Dr. J. C. Larkin was Chairman and C. M. Lacy Vice-Chairman. Since its organization, the

Red Cross officers and workers have been ably supported by Highland County citizens, in war and peace, giving of their time and money, proving their patriotism and loyalty to their country.

The Raymond R. Stout Post of the American Legion, was organized Oct. 3, 1919 with Dr. J. C. Larkin as Post Commander and Sigel Mullenix as Adjutant.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion was organized Jan. 20, 1925 with Mrs. Sigel Mullenix, President.

In 1911, Carey Roush assembled a group of 16 boys, who camped and met as Boy Scouts, but apparently failed to register the troop with the national organization, B.S.A. Later, Frank Leslie continued with the nucleus of boys, registered the group and was assigned designation as Troop No. 1.

Later in 1917, the Episcopal Church sponsored Boy Scout Troop No. 2, with Rev. Louis E. Durr designated as the founder and Ed. B. Ayres, Jr. as Scoutmaster.

Scoutmasters, Leslie and Ayres, cooperated in every way to advance Scouting in Hillsboro. Their Scouts were trained in faith invincible, honor inviolate, clean living, and consideration of the other fellow. When Scoutmaster Ayres became a partner in the W. R. Smith Drug Co. in 1920, he could not devote his time to the scout cause and as no scoutmaster could be found, Troup 2 entered Troup 1 under special dispensation.

Today, scouting in Hillsboro has reached a new high under the leadership of H. Lawson Walker, who has been identified with scouting in Hillsboro for nearly forty-five years, being a member of the first troop under Carey Roush. There are today, 2 Boy Scout Troops, 1 Cub Pack, 1 Ship Troop and an Explorer Pack. Both Lawson Walker and Ed. B. Ayres, Jr., have been awarded, the Silver Beaver, for distinguished service to boyhood in the territory.

The Girl Scouts were organized in 1918 by Mrs. Howard Tolle who served as captain. With the exception of a few years, when it was impossible to secure leaders, Girl Scouts have been very active in both school and civic affairs.

Today there are four troops. One Senior, one Brownie and two Intermediate groups. Mrs. Edith Banyas is the present leader.

In November 1936, a charter was presented to the local Rotary Club. Although the membership is restricted one man in each distinct line of business or profession, Rotary's influence on the community has been tremendous. Their first slogan, "He profits most who serves best", and later, "Service above Self", best expresses the principles of Rotary.

There are only three charter members: Dr. C. G. Foor, H. E. Barnes and Ed. B. Ayres, Jr. All are Past Presidents of the club.

Lions Club received its charter May 6, 1946. Mr. Ralph Grimshaw served as the first president. At present there are 38 members and Mr. Richard L. Davis is President.

The Lions Club is nationally active in aid to the blind. They provide glasses for indigent children as well as others who are in need of them.

Hillsboro has a large number of fraternal, patriotic and service organizations. Each and every one is strong in membership and, as a result, are strong in their various activities.

The first woman's club in Hillsboro was the "Greystone" founded in the 1880's. It was a very informal organization but its purpose, "To promote intelligence and intellectual self-reliance in its women members", has been unanimously adopted by the women's clubs formed since them. The meetings were mostly literary, however, they became prominent socially, entertaining many noted guests. Their "functions" were always delightful and colorful, but as the founders dropped out, for various reasons, the club ceased to exist about the year 1900.

The Friday Club, organized in 1890 by Mrs. John Matthews, is the oldest active woman's club. Their rules are somewhat strict and the membership is made up of selected, dignified ladies. Their programs have always been of the highest type and prepared so that anyone privileged to attend their meetings is benefitted.

The Twentieth Century Club founded in 1894, is made up of married ladies only. During each year they make a serious study of some literary work.

The Sarah L. Richards Altruistic Society was founded Feb. 21, 1894. Besides its record in civic betterment, household economies, village improvement, school etc., there was always a literary feature in every program. Many learned and professional speakers favored them with lectures. Their aim was "First a base of supplies, then a hospital".

Throughout the years there have been many, many more clubs actively participating in community affairs. The Garden Club, Legion Auxiliary, Parent-Teachers Association, Women's Relief Corps, Business and Professional Women's Club, D.A.R., etc.

CELEBRATIONS

Congress and the President recommended that the one-hundredth anniversary of our National Independence be celebrated on July 4, 1876. A committee was formed consisting of C. S. Bell, Chairman, Chas. H. Collins, Secretary and Frank Armstrong, Chairman of the committee on decoration.

At daybreak, a thirteen gun salute was fired, in honor of the thirteen original states, twenty-four at noon in honor of the states in the

Union in 1826 and thirty-eight at sunset in honor of the number of states in 1876.

A procession of nearly 2000 people followed the parade to the Fair Grounds when the Hon. S. E. Hibben was introduced as the person chosen to read the Declaration of Independence. After the meeting, the firemen gave an exhibition on the courthouse square. The fire companies in gay, new uniforms and the new steam engine "Hillsborough" used the cistern in front of the courthouse and threw water to a height of two hundred feet.

The fireworks at night were witnessed by several thousand persons. The display commenced with the ascension of five balloons, three of them over thirty feet in diameter.

Most of the business houses, and the private homes, were literally covered with flags and flowers. The parade was over a mile and half long and contained many clever and unique entries. The most outstanding was the display of C. S. Bell Foundry. They used an ingenious arrangement of gold bells that formed an octave. As the parade moved along the bells were played upon and produced music, "The Last Rose of Summer", "Home Sweet Home", "America", and many other popular and patriotic songs. Another novel feature was the Patrons of Husbandry float. They were the only Civic Society that had women in the procession as members.

NEW MARKET CENTURY CELEBRATION

On August 4-6, 1897, New Market held their century celebration. 1797-1897. Each day had a special theme and parade under the direction of the Century Plant Society. The pageants were held in Barrere's Grove at the edge of town. The first day was designated as "The Dawn of New Market", the second day as "The Youth of New Market", "Fifty Years Ago" and the last day "New Market Today".

SPANISH CANNON

In 1899, Senator Foraker was instrumental in obtaining the Spanish Cannon for Hillsboro, one of the one-hundred fifty year old bronze cannons, taken from Morro Castle, Santiago De Cuba. Only three other cities in Ohio were so favored. They were Canton, Cleveland and Cincinnati. When the cannon arrived via the railroad, it was the occasion for another grand celebration.

The Spanish Cannon, bronze howitzer type, was mounted on a wagon drawn by sixteen big horses. A Spanish American Soldier in full uniform rode the near horse of each team and the cannon was guarded by Spanish American soldiers.

Fire Chief, Mike Carroll, led the parade, followed by the fire engine drawn by six horses. The engine was followed by the hose reel and hook and ladder departments, each drawn by four horses. Several bands participated in the day-long celebration. The cannon was received in

Hillsboro July 4, 1899 and was placed in the yard of the Washington School.

HILLSBORO CENTENNIAL 1807-1907

The Hillsboro and Highland County Centennial and Home Coming, and the Centennial of the Presbyterian Church were observed in Sept. 1907. The celebration was carried out by the Business Men's Association. D. Q. Morrow was Chairman, Sam R. Free, Vice-Chairman, O. N. Sams, Secretary and Dr. William Hoyt, Treasurer.

The opening exercises were held in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday. The historical sermon by Dr. McSurely was the highlight of the celebration. He had been their pastor for over thirty years and was credited with being the person most responsible for their beautiful new church.

Tuesday was set apart as "Historical Day." The crowd, estimated at 25,000, was the largest ever assembled in the town. Over 15,000 persons attended military day on Wednesday and several thousand stayed for the military ball in the evening.

Judge Cyrus Newby made the address of welcome, which was responded to by Dr. Rodney Trimble of New Vienna. The Hillsboro Military Co., led by Smithe's Band, was at the head of the parade.

Senator Joseph B. Foraker spoke to hundreds of his old army comrades. The fireworks in the evening included his picture and was greeted with applause. Joseph O'Neal, Adjutant General of the National G.A.R., was also one of the speakers. J. L. Boardman, former blind editor of the News Herald, was also on hand to reminisce. Judge S. F. Steele read a historical sketch of the town and many other prominent speakers took part in the celebration. The business houses and the private homes were elaborately decorated for the homecomers who thronged back to the soil of their native Highland County.

HILLSBORO'S NATIVE SONS

JOE HIESTAND, THE FARM BOY

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1949, Joe Hiestand, a Hillsboro farmer who has brought more than his share of fame to the county, was honored at a banquet in the Elks Hall. Celebrities from the sports world and trap-shooters from throughout the nation, joined Hillsboro in a tribute to the world famous shooter. He has the honor of being picked on the All-American Trapshooting Team several times and has served many times as Captain of the team. He holds the world's record of hitting 1,179 consecutive targets without a miss. He set the record in 1938 and it has never been equalled.

He is known throughout the trapshooting world as "The best shot in the world". His home, west of Hillsboro, contains several cases filled to overflowing with cups and trophies won in exhibition games.

Starting his shooting career at the age of 29, now at 50, he is still going strong. He won 10 national crowns in 1935 and 1936. His list of victories is a long one.

He was a member of the world's squad which broke 499 out of 500 at York and Delaware. He has shot in nearly every state and abroad.

In 1951 Hiestand captained the U. S. team in a line bird match in Monte Carlo which took the world championship by seven birds.

In August, 1942 Hiestand was commissioned a major in the Air Force. He lives on a farm a few miles west of Hillsboro and is now a Highland County Commissioner.

MILTON CANIFF "REMBRANDT OF THE COMIC STRIPS"

Designed as a part of the sesquicentennial celebration of the State of Ohio, Milt Caniff Day was held on October 19, 1953. Milton Caniff was born on East North Street in Hillsboro and spent his boyhood days here. He was a member of Boy Scout Troup No. 2 when Ed. B. Ayres, Jr., was Scoutmaster. He has become world renowned as "Rembrandt of the Comic Strips". His "Terry and the Pirates" and later, "Steve Canyon" drawn by his left hand, have literally and figuratively drawn him to the top of his profession. He is a favorite with fliers and aviation minded people because the central theme of his strip has been aviation.

The celebration included a parade, in which the famed artist rode one of the city's fire trucks driven by veteran fireman, Roger Faris. He was named Honorary Fire Chief of the Department. Visits were made to his birthplace and both elementary schools. A special program was given at the high school auditorium with Milton giving a drawing exhibition. The meeting was climaxed when Curtis Wilson presented a plaque to the Mayor, Clark Wisecup, honoring Hillsboro as the birthplace of the artist Milton Caniff.

Advertisements in the mid-1800's were quite descriptive.

W. C. Miller who sold fresh groceries on N. High St. advertised them as "good as the best and cheap as the cheapest." He invited the public to try his wares and be satisfied that "some things can be done as well as others."

Stock Sale Day was inaugurated sometime in 1870. The sale was held the first Saturday of every month and although the first sales were held for the buying and selling of horses, they are still being held today for the exchange of all types of animals raised in Highland County.

HILLSBORO SESQUICENTENIAL

The year 1957 will long be remembered as Hillsboro's Sesquicentennial year. The committee in charge are: Frank Collins, Honorary President, Dr. W. M. Hoyt, President, Mrs. W. M. Hoyt, Secretary, Mrs. Oren Layman, Treasurer and J. Fred Bennett, General Chairman.

It would be impossible, in such a short space, to review all the names and deeds of the persons who have played prominent roles in the making of the history of Hillsboro. The power and prestige of our ancestors have added luster to our state and nation and their names are graven forever on the pages of history.

Our city stands today as a tribute to the foresight of our forebearers for the liberal plan upon which our city was laid out, a plan not only worthy of the intelligence and esthetic taste of today but most appropriate to the beautiful and commanding site which gave them anticipation of what, in the future, would be acknowledged by all, as only worthy of the location.

A friendly southern spirit still prevails in Hillsboro, with the hospitable graciousness of a by-gone era, when the stately Virginia and Kentucky gentlemen were setting examples of conduct for the generations to come. Hospitality has been, and still is, a virtue that is the birthright of all of Highland County.

There is every reason for congratulation in the present condition and future outlook of our city. We have an influential trading center with new enterprises locating here. There are ample supplies of fuel, water and transportation which, in the future, will attract other industries.

Rocky Fork Lake, nestled in the Highland Hills, is one of Ohio's most beautiful and scenic lakes. Its recreational development and the historic background of Hillsboro have brought an ever-increasing number of people to Highland County.

Today, we have wealth, enterprise, and intelligence, guided by the years. The free spirit of the Hillsboro and Highland County Pioneers, broad, warm and full of true humanity, has fallen upon their judgement and principles of honor and integrity, handed down through descendants like a blessed benediction.

H. F. Clayton advertised for sale codfish and ax-handles, "a very superior article, very low."

BUSINESSES OVER 100 YEARS OLD

One of the early industries of Hillsboro was founded in 1858 by C. S. Bell, in a small plant on Beech Street. From its humble beginning the factory soon turned out more bells than all the other factories in the

United States. Church, school, alarm and farm bells; feed and grinding mills; evaporators, mogul stoves and cane mills were manufactured.

During World War II they supplied the U. S. Navy with more than twenty thousand bells.

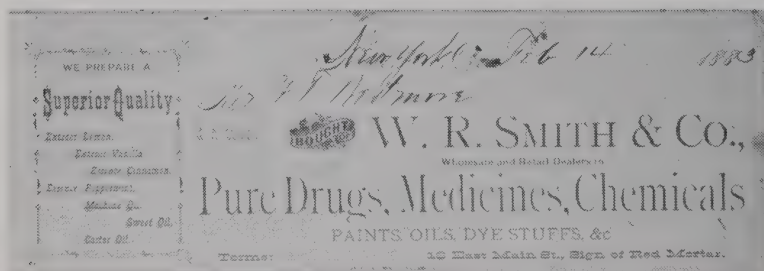
Today the company is owned and operated by the grandchildren of the founder, Miss Virginia and Charles B. Bell. The new, modern



foundry and machine shop is located north of the Norfolk and Western railroad tracks, at the western edge of the city.

C. S. Bell Co. products are recognized for efficiency and durability and have been shipped all over the world. The melodious bells, made by the "Bells", ring out their warning peak of joy and sorrow, call the children to school and summon the saints to the worship of God in every clime.

Ayres Drug Store, on East Main Street, is one of the oldest continuous drug stores in the state of Ohio. The store began in 1808 when Dr. Jasper Hand started the practice of medicine in Hillsboro. Dr. Jacob Kirby, Dr. W. R. Smith and his sons Walter, Kirby and Charles, preceded the present owner and operator, Edwin B. Ayres, Jr. in the business.



The Ayres Pharmacy, over the years, has always upheld the ideals of the profession and retained the atmosphere of the old apothecary shop of Dr. Hand.

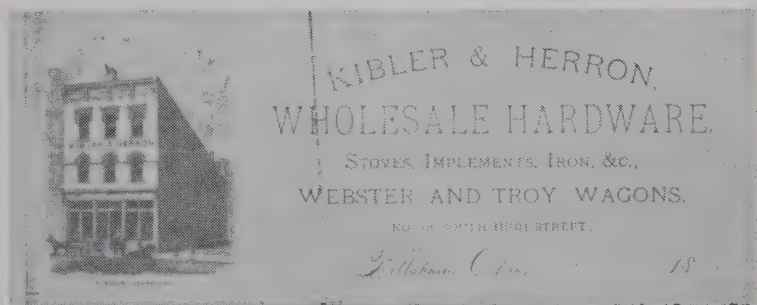
Undoubtedly the best known landmark in Hillsboro is the huge red mortar and pestle in front of the Ayres Drug Store. Purchased by Walter Smith when he visited the Philadelphia Centennial in 1876, it originally set in the street and was used as a hitching post.

The other symbols of the drug trade, the two large colorful show globes, both originals, hang from solid brass brackets in the windows. George Chandler, for whom a foundation in the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy is named, used the globes as patterns for reproductions to be sold nation wide.

The atmosphere of the old store has been retained in the walnut cases surmounted by a panel with a carved mortar and pestle. The cases were designed by a Hillsboro resident, specially for the store and manufactured locally from native walnut and butternut lumber.

Still in use, are rows of hand blown bottles with individually ground glass stoppers. Each bottle carries an original gold leaf label with the legend of the contents in latin and protected by a covering of curved glass.

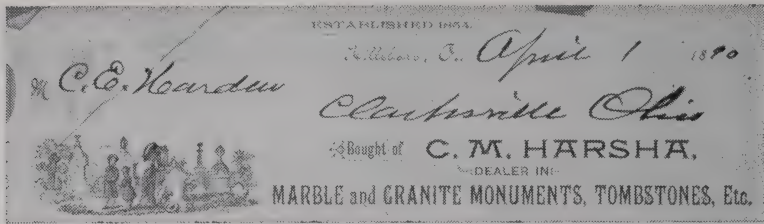
After a century and a half, Ayres Drug Store is still "A DRUG STORE".



The Fairley Hardware Store unquestionably shares the honor of being one of the oldest hardware stores in Hillsboro and Highland County. The business was founded in 1834 by Joseph Kibler, in a building on the corner of Short and Main Sts. as a tin and copper ware manufactory. As was the custom, a symbol, "The Red Anvil" was chosen to use in their advertising.

In 1866, the business was moved to E. Main St. and in 1879 the building they now occupy was erected. The present owner, Vernon Fairley, succeeded his father, R. B. Fairley shortly after the World War.

Today they have six Fairley Hardware Stores in Hillsboro, Wilmington, Blanchester, Waynesville, Sabina and Lynchburg. They have the distinction of being known as Ohio's largest carload buyers of hardware and related products. They are not only one of the oldest stores but also one of the most reliable and successful.



The Harsha Monument Co., established in 1854 by Paul Harsha, was the first concern in Hillsboro to manufacture and promote the sale of cemetery memorials. The shop was first located in the room now occupied by McGee's Bakery on South High Street. The founder, an expert craftsman, laid the foundation for the long life of the business by teaching others his ideals of workmanship.

In 1893, the Harsha Monument Co. was organized and incorporated with several leading citizens in the company. A shop was built on West Walnut Street where the business has since continued. The stockholders, in the original company, retired from time to time and the business is now in the Harsha family.

Paul Harsha, grandson of the founder and manager of the plant for several years is still living though retired. His son, Charles Harsha, now manages the century old business that, for so many years, has furnished fitting memorials for those who have answered the call.

ESTABLISHED 1826

F. M. HIBBEN
S. G. HIBBEN

S. E. HIBBEN & SON

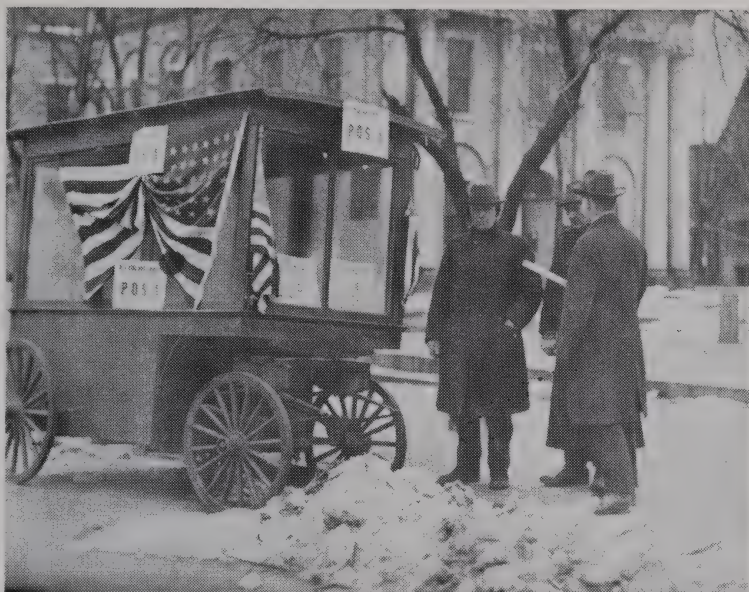
DEALERS IN

DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS

132 NORTH HIGH STREET
HILLSBORO, OHIO

William and S. E. Hibben opened a drygoods store in Hillsboro, on North High Street opposite the courthouse, in a building that has been occupied by the Globe Inn and was formerly the headquarters of the Whig Party. The store opened for business on May 23, 1826 and has continued under the Hibben name until the present time. The building has been remodeled and refitted, from time to time, to keep up with the ever-changing stock, but the location has remained the same. Frank Zane, veteran clerk of 47 years, now manages the store.

The policy of the store, founded at the very beginning by Samuel E. Hibben, was, and still is, that of strictest integrity and fair dealing, to refuse unfair profits and never to sell any dishonest goods.



Jesse Horton's peanut wagon, an old Hillsboro landmark.

Highland County's early fairs were managed by the Agricultural Society and were called "Grand Agricultural Festivals". They were held on the grounds belonging to Dr. Fullerton near the corporation line. Credit was given to the ladies for their success, according to Samuel Pike, a writer for the Highland Democrat on June 14, 1866. He said:

"Great credit is due to the ladies who labored from early morn 'til late at e'en for the whole week or more in order to make the Festival a success. Beyond a doubt Hillsborough contains more beautiful, indomitable, energetic, persevering ladies than any town its size in North America."

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